



# THE INDEPENDENT

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TUESDAY 28 JULY 1998

(150p) 45p

IN THE NEWS SECTION

England escape  
to victory

IN THE BROADSHEET REVIEW

TUESDAY REVIEW  
'All they know is how to kill'Boy soldiers  
trained to killMother I hardly  
knew youFEARLESS &  
COMMITMENT & MEDIA

## Doctor suspended and 1,000 women re-called in cancer treatment scandal

MORE THAN 1,000 women at serious risk of cervical cancer have been recalled by a London teaching hospital after checks find life-threatening errors in their treatment.

Graham Barker, a senior doctor, has been suspended at St George's Hospital, in Tooting, south London, after 19 women with advanced cancer were identified in the eight months up to last March. Two of the women have died. An independent review has confirmed that in 12 of the 19 cases, including one of the women who died, the early treatment given was "unsatisfactory" or "gave cause for concern".

The incident is potentially

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

more serious than the 1996 scandal at Kent and Canterbury hospital, the worst so far, in which at least eight women died and 90,000 were recalled after screening errors led to women with early signs of cancer being missed. The errors at St George's occurred at a later stage, when women already identified with warning signs of cancer from their cervical smears were wrongly treated.

The women were contacted by letter yesterday, and their GPs were alerted, after a five-month review involving examination of records of 5,000

women going back 10 years.

All the women were treated by Mr Barker at St George's following cervical smears showing moderate to severe abnormalities. The hospital has set up a helpline and is trebling the number of clinics to cope with the expected demand.

The independent review also found that 27 women with vaginal cancer received inconsistent treatment at St George's. They have all been contacted and had their treatment checked.

Mr Barker, a senior clinical medical officer at the hospital since 1988, has been responsible for the colposcopy service, which involves examining and treating women whose cervical

smears indicate they may be at risk of developing cancer. The hospital screens over 27,000 women a year, of whom about 1,000 with moderate or severe

abnormalities in their smear are referred for colposcopy. A senior clinical medical officer is ranked just below consultant level. Mr Barker, who has published books on gynaecological cancer and smear tests, carried out the same work at three private hospitals in the London area - the Portland Hospital for Women and Children, the London Bridge Hospital and Parkside hospital, Wimbledon. They are making their own arrangements for recalling affected women but the numbers are thought to be small.

Colposcopy involves a careful visual examination of the cervix using a binocular microscope. Where changes to the

cells are seen the doctor performs a loop excision - cutting away the affected tissue. If no abnormal changes are seen the doctor should take a biopsy - a sample of cells that can be checked in the pathology laboratory for signs of cancer.

Guidelines say that the loop excision should be deep enough to ensure a clear margin of healthy cells is removed beyond the affected tissue, but Mr Barker was making a shallower excision, which may have left some cancerous cells behind. At least nine out of ten women should have biopsies - allowing for some who are pregnant or fail to attend the clinic - but checks showed that in some

years Mr Barker performed biopsies on less than six out of ten. The 1,000 women being recalled are those who either had no biopsy performed or had a loop excision where abnormal cells may have been left behind.

Andrew Dillon, the chief executive, said the delay in completing the checks was due to

to ensure the need to examine specimens taken from each woman for signs of cancer, which could only be done by a consultant. Mr Barker is estimated to have performed 10,000 colposcopies on 5,000 women in the past decade.

Guidelines on colposcopy were first issued by the health department in January 1996 but it is unclear what was ac-

cepted as good practice before that date. Mr Dillon said: "It has not been alleged that this was an incompetent practitioner. What is being said is that he practised in a way that we are now being told is inappropriate. This is not an issue about the management of the service - as Kent and Canterbury was. It is a standards issue."

Mr Dillon said the questions raised by the St George's investigation were likely to highlight similar problems with the practice of colposcopy elsewhere.

He added: "We are clear we are not alone. It is important institutions have mechanisms for picking up these problems."

Women at risk, page 7



St George's Hospital

## Blair tightens grip as Brown feels squeeze

BY COLIN BROWN  
Chief Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR last night tightened his grip on the centre of his Government by sacking four ministers and promoting more Blairites to the Cabinet in moves that can curb the power of the Chancellor.

"It is a New Labour Government and it is a New Labour reshuffle," declared the Prime Minister's official spokesman.

The sackings left blood on the carpet and some ministers seething with resentment. One



## ...while Cook feels the heat over Sandline

MINISTERS deliberately played down details of the Sierra Leone arms embargo because they supported its exiled government, the official inquiry into the arms-to-Africa affair has concluded.

The result of the inquiry, which clears ministers of prior knowledge and says nobody should be disciplined, was one of several important government announcements made yesterday when public attention was diverted by the Cabinet reshuffle. As well as releasing the report by Sir Thomas Legg, ministers also disclosed guidelines which were promised in the wake of the cash-for-access scandal. These allow ministers and of-

icials to have contact with lobbyists if they think it in the Government's interest. There were also potentially contentious announcements on the tightening of rules on asylum-seekers and the shelving of plans to lower the age of consent to 16 for gay men. In the Commons, the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said officials and ministers had been vindicated by Sir Thomas' report. He announced a series of reforms to the FO, including better staffing, better handling of intelligence reports and no contact with mercenaries except with permission.

Officials blamed, page 8

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senior ministerial source claimed: "There's been a New Labour purge."

In spite of the long-running antagonism by the Chancellor against Peter Mandelson, Mr Blair promoted the Minister without Portfolio to the Cabinet. In a clear signal to some of Mr Brown's supporters, the Prime Minister's Official spokesman said it was time to end the "personality spats" which had soured the first year in office.

"The Government is not opposition. People have got to face up to the fact that being in Government requires extra responsibility and people working together as a team," he added.

Mr Blair rewarded the rising talent, headed by Mr Mandelson, but went further than expected in punishing the failures by sacking four Cabinet ministers: Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, Lord Richard, the Leader of the House of Lords, Gavin Strang, the Transport minister, and David Clark, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He softened the blow for Ms Harman by saying there was no reason why she should not rejoin

the frontbench after "a breathing space".

The Blairite nature of the reshuffle was reinforced by the promotion of Stephen Byers, the education minister, to Chief Secretary to the Treasury, with a hint that the next big reshuffle will bring more into the Cabinet, including Alan Milburn, the Health Minister, and Helen Liddell, the Treasury minister. Others promoted to the Cabinet were Baroness Jay, an Leader of the House of Lords, and Nick Brown, who was moved out of the key role as Chief Whip to become Agriculture Minister.

In a moment of high drama,

Frank Field, the minister of state for social security, walked out of No 10 and announced his resignation to the television cameras after Mr Blair put Alastair Darling, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in charge of the welfare reforms.

The reshuffle redefined the relationship between Mr Blair and Gordon Brown, underlining the Prime Minister's determination to stamp his own authority over the Treasury, in charge of the welfare reforms.

Replacing Margaret Beckett, who was demoted to Leader of the House of Commons, Mr Mandelson will retain the responsibility for the Millennium Dome, but he is dropping the title of President of the Board of Trade to avoid being

Mandelson feared would create more enemies for himself.

But Mr Mandelson's promotion as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry could risk future conflict with the Chancellor over the direction of economic policy, if he has to contend with further damage to manufacturing caused by high interest rates.

Replacing Margaret Beckett, who was demoted to Leader of the House of Commons, Mr Mandelson will retain the responsibility for the Millennium Dome, but he is dropping the title of President of the Board of Trade to avoid being

known as "President Pete".

Downing Street said Mr Mandelson would be "the guardian of business interests in Whitehall", implying it believes Mrs Beckett has alienated the support among business leaders carefully constructed by Labour before the election.

Downing Street denied that Mr Field's resignation meant the Government would drop its plans for cutting the cost of the state pension and disability widows' and housing benefit. He had asked for the top job at Social Security to give him the mandate to introduce his reforms, and resigned rather

than accept a compromise.

Jack Cunningham, the former Agriculture Minister, was put in charge of Cabinet presentation and coordination. Downing Street anxiously played down suggestions that he would be an "enforcer" for Mr Blair, but he will be an important ally for the Prime Minister across Whitehall.

Mr Clark's sacking raised doubts about the Government's commitment to a radical Freedom of Information Act. He told *The Independent* it was ready if Mr Blair chose to include it in the Queen's Speech.

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The family that owns Littlewoods' pools empire has hit the jackpot with a £208m pay-out

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Manchester United have opened talks with Aston Villa regarding £16m Dwight Yorke

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All riders must be over 18, pay an initial deposit of £250 and pledge to raise the minimum amount of sponsorship.

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Lottery bonanza to end for arts advisers

THE INDEPENDENT  
Tuesday 28 July 1998

## CABINET RESHUFFLE

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Lord Richard, 66  
Old Job: Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal  
Lord Richard was ennobled in 1980 and became leader of the Lords last May. A barrister before coming into the Commons between 1964 and 1974, was number two on Foreign Affairs, under Jim Callaghan - his successor, Foreign Affairs' Jay's father.



David Clarke, 58  
Old Job: Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster  
Considered part of the Blair circle, thus sacking will come as a blow to Mr Clarke. He is not known for his skills at the despatch box and has suffered as a result. Could prove in a less high profile role in the future.



Alastair Darling, 45  
Old Job: Secretary of State for Social Security  
Old Job: Chief Secretary to the Treasury  
Prospects: The Scottish lawyer entered the House 11 years ago and has sat on the Front Bench since 1992. As a junior minister he won Blair's admiration. Mr Blair will find Mr Darling's sharp brain useful for seeking innovative ways to deal with welfare.



Nick Brown, 48  
Old Job: Secretary of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Old Job: Government Chief Whip  
Prospects: Nick Brown, has been promoted since 1992. A backbencher and strangely shy for a former chief whip although known to be able behind-the-scenes. He was considered too close to Gordon Brown, as well as being a bit of a culture vulture, as EIS and angry farmers have shown can be a difficult and high profile brief.



Peter Mandelson, 44  
New Job: Secretary of State for Trade and Industry £90,267 a year  
Old Job: Minister without Portfolio  
Prospects: High profile job will put him in direct opposition to Gordon Brown, but its demanding nature may reduce opportunities to please Mandelson, who now has to deal with both sides of industry on issues like the minimum wage.

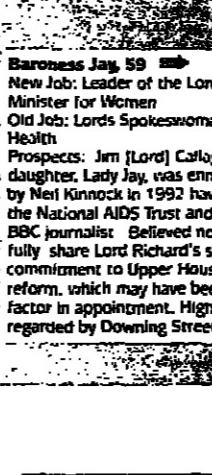
DEMOTIONS



Harriet Harman, 47  
Old Job: Secretary of State for Social Security  
Considered part of the Blair circle, thus sacking will come as a blow to Ms Harman. Although heading back to the backbenches for the first time since 1984, she is still valued and may return to the fold soon.



Anna Taylor, 51  
Old Job: Leader of the House of Commons  
Prospects: Ms Taylor has moved to the Right recently, but is still regarded as One Nation. Considered as a moderate, unlikely to move much further up the promotional ladder, but equally unlikely to face an embarrassing demotion.



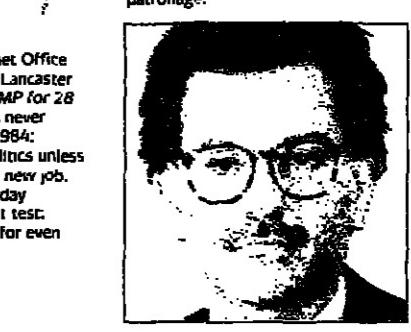
Margaret Beckett, 55  
New Job: Leader of the House of Commons  
£90,267  
Old Job: President of the Board of Trade  
Prospects: Swindled against her wishes, Mrs Beckett has argued that the government's complete unwillingness work such as the national minimum wage and "fairness at work" legislation. Considered Old Labour, but her star could rise again if Gordon Brown becomes Prime Minister. High profile likely as a spokesman for the Government along with Jack Cunningham.



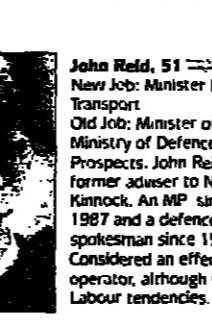
Baroness Jay, 59  
Old Job: Leader of the Lords and Minister for Women  
Old Job: Lord Spokeswoman on Environment  
Prospects: Jim [Lord] Callaghan's daughter, Lady Jay, was ennobled by Neil Kinnock in 1992 having run the National AIDS Trust and been a BBC journalist. Believed not to fully share Lord Richard's strong commitment to Upper House reform, which may have been a factor in appointment. Highly regarded by Downing Street.



Stephen Byers, 48  
New Job: Chief Secretary to the Treasury £90,267 a year  
Old Job: Education minister  
Prospects: The appointment of Blairite Mr Byers, as Treasury number two will be seen as undermining the alternative power base of Gordon Brown. Mr Byers has few links with old Labour and will continue to rise under Blair's patronage.



John Reid, 51  
Old Job: Secretary of State for Transport  
Old Job: Minister for Transport  
Old Job: Minister of State, Ministry of Defence  
Prospects: Mr Reid, a former adviser to Neil Kinnock, an MP since 1987 and a defence spokesman since 1990. Considered an effective operator, although with Old Labour tendencies.



Frank Field, 56  
Old Job: Minister of State at the Department of Social Security  
Since Mr Field, was regarded as the man who knew more about the welfare system than anyone else in Parliament, Cabinet Ministers included, it is likely to remain in the public eye as backbencher pundit or take a role outside the House.



John Smith, 51  
Old Job: Minister for Transport  
Old Job: Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster  
Prospects: Mr Cunningham, an MP for 28 years is known as a survivor. Has never hidden his ambition, saying in 1994: "There is no point in being in politics unless one is interested in power." The new job, described as Minister for the Today programme, will be his toughest test. Success would make him eager for even higher office.



Jack Cunningham, 58  
Old Job: Secretary of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Old Job: Minister for the Cabinet Office and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster  
Prospects: Mr Cunningham, an MP for 28 years is known as a survivor. Has never hidden his ambition, saying in 1994: "There is no point in being in politics unless one is interested in power." The new job, described as Minister for the Today programme, will be his toughest test. Success would make him eager for even higher office.

## Blair turns away from the shadows



DONALD MACINTYRE

THIS IS the first Cabinet Tony Blair has chosen for himself. And almost every change he made yesterday bears the personal stamp of its relentlessly modernising, meritocratic author.

The conventional wisdom is that by the simple act of reshuffling the Government, Blair asserted his authority over his most brilliant but potentially troublesome baron, Gordon Brown. The conventional wisdom is not wrong for all the adamant protests yesterday to the contrary by the Prime Minister's press secretary, Alastair Campbell.

Blair fulfilled Brown's - and, as it happens, Peter Mandelson's - wishes by not giving Mandelson, who with Brown was Blair's fellow architect in the construction of New Labour, a job at the centre of power as the Prime Minister's enforcer. But the promotion of Mandelson to the DTI is certainly more spectacular than Brown wanted.

Second, the translation of Gordon Brown's close friend Nick Brown from the central job of Chief Whip to the relatively Siberian wastes of Agriculture is undeniably symbolic. Nick Brown gave his namesake a direct line to the heart of the Parliamentary Labour Party which will henceforth be denied him.

The reshuffle, with a reshaping of the machinery of government by an increasingly high-profile Cabinet Secretary, Sir Richard Wilson, undoubtedly serves to tighten the Prime Minister's grip on government. And that can

hardly fail to be at the expense of some of the Treasury's pervasive influence - hugely powerful a figure though the Chancellor remains.

But while the conventional wisdom isn't wrong, it's also incomplete. Tony Blair showed yesterday that he can be brutal. The expulsion of Harriet Harman, one of both Blair and Brown's truest ideological allies - and a woman who achieved more than she was normally given credit for - was ruthless. So too was the sacking of one of the party's elder statesmen, the worldly-wise Ivor Richard.

And the reshuffle is more interesting even than that. To take a random example, that very removal of Nick Brown, who is perfectly capable of making a success of Agriculture once he gets over the shock, is matched by the stunning step Blair has taken by appointing the trusted Ann Taylor to be the first female Chief Whip.

At one stroke Blair has dismantled the grisly, misogynist, male clubbiness of the Whips' Office that has existed under

governments, Labour and Tory, since anyone can remember. There were also some imaginative appointments in the pipeline last night for the lower ministerial ranks; it would not be wholly surprising to find Tony Blair's old barrister colleague Lord Falconer turn up at the centre of power perhaps as Minister without Portfolio.

But in any case, as important as the endlessly fascinating but sometimes highly tenuous distinctions between Brownites and Blairites, is the plain fact that while maintaining a balanced Cabinet that leaves Clare Short, Robin Cook, John Prescott, David Blunkett and Chris Smith in place, it is nevertheless not a Cabinet reshuffle that advances the left: each of the Cabinet promotions is either an ultra-moderniser like Stephen Byers, the new Chief Secretary to the Treasury, or a member of the traditional Labour right wing like Cunningham or Taylor, or both, like Mandelson.

And Margaret Beckett, the first woman Leader of the Lords and a highly presentable minister, also has, as the daughter of James Callaghan, and the former daughter-in-law of the late Douglas Jay, an impeccable family pedigree on Labour's revisionist right.

Yet this may be almost as much coincidence as design. The net reduction of two left-wing members of the Cabinet, David Clark and Gavin Strang, did not result from an arithmetical calculation of left-right balance. They owed their places not to merit, but to the Lord Irvine and giving it to the

left-of-centre Margaret Beckett to make her translation from the DTI to the Presidency of the Council more palatable.

For it is not, in the end, ideological division that most threatens to divide and sap the purpose of this government. It is the personal, and occasionally poisonous, rivalry between some of its most prominent figures, a rivalry that has virtually nothing to do what used to be called the "isohouse".

The relationship between Mandelson and Brown will now matter as it has never mattered before - and it will have to be much closer than some of those around the Chancellor like to imply it could ever be.

Once, before John Smith's death in 1994, they were friends. And the cordial early morning conversation they had early yesterday, not to mention Brown's warm and gracious congratulations on Mandelson's promotion, suggests at least that they could be once again. But there is a long way to go. What is clear is that the stakes are now much higher than they have been; whether

on interest rates, or competitiveness or productivity, you cannot have the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry disagreeing and hope to get away with presenting a united front.

Mandelson has got what he wants - a make-or-break chance to run his own department. As Blair told him yesterday, advising him to keep a low profile until he has mastered his daunting brief, if he does it well he will prosper mightily. But every petty dispute, every slight, real or imagined,

will threaten to shatter the Government's effectiveness.

There was a lot of talk yesterday about a more formal, more structured approach to government, from now on. That will help, as will a reshuffle in which Blair has shown real steel.

Rewards are the one really big card a Prime Minister has to play in the endless struggle to enforce his will over the rest of government. Blair has taken his opportunity with both hands. Now it is up to those around him to make it work.

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- (b) Your tea-leaves
- (c) Madame Zara's tarot cards
- (d) Your Virgin One bank statement

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## The day I got the sack – an ex-Cabinet Minister writes



DAVID CLARK  
*Who was dismissed yesterday as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster*

I WASN'T surprised to be summoned by the Prime Minister. He just said he was delighted by all the work that I had done, but he wanted to make changes and that meant some people had to go.

There was communication on Sunday night to ask people to be on stand-by this morning. I was at home because I had a 9am dental appointment in my constituency.

He spoke to me on the phone for the simple reason that I could not get to London. He wanted to see me in London. It was I who suggested that he should speak to me on the phone. There is no criticism of him whatever.

He said he wanted to make progress very quickly. He was very keen we met as soon as I got to London, which I did, but he just wanted my "disposition"; he wanted me moved out of the Cabinet basically.

I saw him in his room. It was fixed up immediately after our phone call. He just wanted to

I feel confident in my mind that I have left everything in good shape. We have a radical Freedom of Information Act. We haven't made any real concessions since the White Paper. It's there. It can be considered for the Queen's Speech. We have also modernised the machinery of government. Electronic Cabinet is now possible. We have drafted a White Paper on better government. It was held up because we were awaiting the Wilson review of Better Government, but that is all ready to go.

One of the last letters I picked up was to answer a question saying that we are going to be able to answer parliamentary questions electronically as well as in written form. That is probably the last thing I did this morning.

There was very little said in our meeting. He was basically remarking on how long my experience on the front bench had been - that I had had 20 years on the front bench - and how

many new people I had worked with, and he wanted to make use of that. I thought it was the proper way of doing it. I didn't find it painful at all. I am disappointed; I am sorry not to be in the Cabinet, but if you go into politics, it's a rough old game. All I know is that my conscience is clear: I have left the position in a far better state than I found it 15 months ago.

I know there has been criticism of the Prime Minister but I found he did it absolutely correctly, with humour and consideration. I would not have asked for any other way of doing it.

It was very much a case of the King is dead, long live the King. I went back to my office and I had cleared it out already before the weekend. I spoke to the staff and said goodbye. I said I would be moving out and Jack would be moving in, and I wished Jack well, and I will give him any help I can.

David Clark was speaking to *Colin Brown*

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# And the next please... the movers and...



**Peter Mandelson**  
"I am absolutely determined to do everything I can for business"



**Jack Cunningham**  
"It's a job... to ensure the programme is running right across Whitehall"



**Harriet Harman**  
"I'm very proud to have helped modernise the Labour Party over the last 15 years"



**Margaret Beckett**  
"Mr Blair told her he saw here as someone respected on both sides of the House"



**Alistair Darling**  
"Mr Blair told him the next six months would be key to the process of welfare reform"

## Advertisement

# How to make the Internet mobile in ten minutes...

Being on-line is as important a part of day-to-day communications as having access to a telephone or fax machine. A mobile phone is now accepted as a standard tool for business; anyone who travels without one is seen as being in the Dark Ages. You take one and stay in touch. There is no reason why you should not be similarly enlightened with mobile data. Access to your e-mail, office network and fax wherever you can use your mobile phone.

### What is mobile data?

Mobile data combines two distinct technologies, computing and cellular communications, providing the mobile work-force with a set of powerful tools enabling them to work away from their office. Digital mobile phones communicate in 1s and 0s just as computers do, therefore the mobile phone network can be used as an alternative to the fixed line networks to provide communications between computers.

### Have you ever needed to be in two places at one time?

When you need to work together with a group of colleagues it is not always possible to get them together in the same place at the same time. With mobile data this doesn't matter. You can e-mail documents, including charts, diagrams and photographs, to as many of your colleagues as you like. They can pick up files from their offices, the back of a taxi, hotel or even a train and bounce ideas around the group - or to other colleagues for further discussion. As sales figures change and currencies fluctuate the raw data can easily be distributed and updated. People can add comments to each other's work and reach a collective decision in no time at all. Improving group communications means improving time management.

### Have you ever wanted to know about your rival's latest product the instant it is announced?

Make sure you are ready to log onto the World Wide Web to pick up the details when your rivals announce their latest products. With mobile data you can do this

traveller accessing data, you may have found it less straightforward than it should be. You need all the right connectors. To plug a computer into a standard telephone socket means that you need the right lead. Different countries have a bizarre and incompatible range of

phone can also be substantially cheaper than paying hotel rates.

**Why is the SH888 the best phone for mobile data?**

To transfer data, PCs require a modem. Before the Ericsson SH888, a portable PC

series. Because the modern is built into the phone, the power isn't drawn from the PC. As the phone need only be used on infrared when you transfer data, the drain on the battery is nominal too. And because it supports the IrDA protocol it is compatible with the widest range of PCs, laptops and PDAs (operating Windows CE 2.0). It's even compatible with the Psion 5 and the Palm III.

**So how do I use the SH888 to connect to the Internet?**

Connecting to the Internet with the SH888 is extremely simple, but it must be noted that you cannot just buy the hardware, switch it on and expect to browse the web. Firstly, you have to subscribe to an Internet service provider, either privately or through your company and then each time follow these simple steps.

Activate your PC or PDA's infra-red port, select "Activate IR port" on the SH888's menu. Place the phone next to the computer, ensuring the infra-red ports are facing each other. Then either log into your office network or dial into your Internet service provider. Click onto your Internet icon and enter your desired address. For faster download, you can opt to turn the images off.

**And how do I use the SH888 for e-mail?**

Sending and receiving

e-mail is as simple as connecting to the Internet and follows much the same pattern - so again, you must have an e-mail account with a service provider either privately or through your office. Switch on your PC and phone, line up the infra-red ports and to send or receive e-mail, dial into your office or service provider. Then click on the e-mail or the in-box icons. You need only be online to transmit and receive e-mails, so you can read and write them at your leisure without tying up your phone line, keeping your costs down as well as your line free for other business.

**The SH888. The best phone from the best manufacturer.**

Introducing the SH888 - Ericsson's most technologically advanced phone. As well as an in-built PC card and infra-red communications port, the SH888 boasts the kind of features that you would expect from the Manufacturer of the Year, as voted by the telecoms trade.

The slim battery gives you up to 120 hours standby and 400 minutes talktime on the GSM 900 network, so you may as well leave your charger at home with the cables. And because the SH888 is one of the first dual band phones available, it is the ideal companion on overseas trips. The ability to use both GSM 900 and 1800 MHz networks gives you the widest possible range of roaming partners, making it easier to get a line in remote or congested areas.

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BY DAISY SAMPSON

HARRIET HARMAN, the sacked Social Security Secretary, announced after her dismissal yesterday that she would continue to support the Government.

She emerged from the Department's headquarters in Whitehall holding a spray of lies and told reporters: "I'm very proud to have helped modernise the Labour Party over the last 15 years. I am going to fully support the Government and I have nothing to add."

At their meeting earlier in the day at the Commons, Mr Blair told Ms Harman that she had done a good job in difficult circumstances but he felt she needed breathing space from front-line politics. He stressed that there was no reason why she should not have a role in government in the future.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman said that, when Ms Harman was told there was no room around the Cabinet table

The former Agriculture Minister was clearly delighted to be leaving the angst of his old job behind him, beaming with a broad smile as he left Number Ten Downing Street: no more agriculture councils, no more furious farmers, no more problems over beef to contend with.

Mr Blair chose Mr Cunningham for the new job, after Gordon Brown the Chancellor and other senior ministers objected to Peter Mandelson being made the Cabinet 'enforcer'. One minister said: "Jack will be superb in the job. He is good at keeping his eye on the big picture. It's not about pulling strings and getting involved in the detail. That is what Peter would have done, and that's one reason why people didn't want him in that role."

Mr Cunningham, 59 next week, is tailor-made for a presentation role - a former aide to Jim Callaghan as Labour Prime Minister; the Prime Minister is said to regard him as a "grown up" politician, who has the experience to handle the Government's publicity machinery.

Mr Cunningham was on the right wing "Manifesto" slate for the Shadow Cabinet during the Labour Party's wilderness years. But has found Blairism a congenial home, and has effortlessly moved up through the ranks, as a dependable, loyal and effective minister.

Mr Cunningham is also a natty dresser, and in his sleek suits, he fronted for Labour at the last general election campaign. He will be a regular and polished performer on talk shows. His constituency is in Copeland, Cumbria, covering the workers at the Sellafield plant, but the faint hint of a Geordie accent betrays his political roots in the North East.

### THE REJECTED

## Exit one of Tony's 'beautiful people'

for her she declined any other posts. Ms Harman was quickly surrounded by friends and colleagues and sounded positively upbeat as she faced her new life on the backbenches.

However, as the daughter of a wealthy Conservative Harley Street physician Ms Harman has often been the cause of resentment among her Older Labour colleagues.

Viewed as one of "Tony's beautiful people" she ran into serious trouble in 1996 when the press discovered that she was sending her son Joe to a grammar school. Her decision was so unpopular amongst some of her Labour colleagues it even sparked the protest resignation of Labour Party's education committee chairman, Gerry Steinberg. Many viewed Tony Blair's decision at the time to back her as a mistake.

Her performance as Secretary of State for Social Security was viewed as poor and she was not a confident speaker at the despatch box.



**The new SH888.**

sockets. With the SH888 you don't need to worry about sockets and cables because it has an in-built PC card and communicates directly by infra-red using the same technology as a TV remote control. For international calls a mobile

modem was contained in a PC card, which slotted inside your computer. The in-built PC card and infra-red technology in the SH888 has a number of benefits, besides removing the need to carry the extra kit and the fact that it's cheaper to buy the SH888 than a mobile phone with separate cable and card.

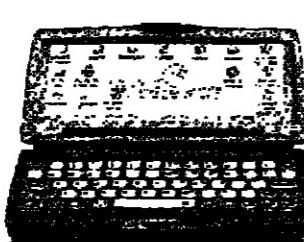
Traditionally PC cards

rapidly drain a computer's battery, especially

PDAs (Personal Digital Assistant), which use

normal Alkaline bat-

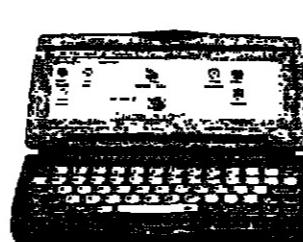
# ...or 10 seconds.



All you need to do is use the SH888 for Mobile Data. Configure your PC or PDA to use its infra-red port.



Select "Activate IR port" on the SH888 menu.



Put the phone next to the computer with the infra-red ports facing each other and log on using your standard PC software.



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## CABINET RESHUFFLE

## shaken do the Downing Street shuffle



Alistair Darling

Frank Field  
*'I believe I can support the Prime Minister more effectively from the backbenches'*Stephen Byers  
*Mr Blair gave him the job of seeing through structure created by spending review*Nick Brown  
*Mr Blair's man with 'proven ability and skill' to replace Jack Cunningham*Ann Taylor  
*The Prime Minister admires her in-depth knowledge of the House of Commons*Baroness Jay  
*Mr Blair told her she would play a leading role in reforming the Lords*THE DISAPPOINTED  
No top job  
— so Field resigns

By COLIN BROWN

DOWNTON STREET yesterday denied that Tony Blair's attempts to reform the welfare state had been declared a failure after his reformer-in-chief, Frank Field, quit the Government.

He had asked Mr Blair to promote him from minister of state to secretary of state for social security to give him the authority to carry out his mandate for cutting the cost of the welfare state with a radical shift to private pensions schemes. When Mr Blair refused, he walked out, and, with an openness which characterised his short term on the front bench, "did a Heseltine" by announcing his departure to the television cameras as he left Number Ten.

"I have decided to resign from the Government. Welfare reform is the central issue for this government. I believe I can support the Prime Minister best on the backbenches to achieve that objective, rather than the positions discussed with me. That is all I have to say," he said.

The first task for Jack Cunningham, on being appointed Mr Blair's ministerial spin-doctor was to deny on BBC radio that Mr Field's resignation signalled the Government had gone cold on plans for radical welfare state reform. That was reinforced by the Prime Minister's official spokesman at Number Ten, who said the Government would bring forward plans for reform of state pensions, disability and industrial injuries benefits, widows' benefits and housing benefit.

Mr Field was plucked off the backbenches by Mr Blair to "think the unthinkable" when

he was appointed to take charge of welfare reforms after the election. He quickly became engaged in a turf war with Harriet Harman, then Social Security Secretary, and relations soured as he made clear his disenchantment with her.

Ms Harman was seen as one of Gordon Brown's allies, and wary of radical reform. As Mr Field was Mr Blair's personal appointment, their battle was interpreted as a surrogate struggle between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor. Last night it appeared to have ended in a draw, with both their pawns off the board.

Mr Field had grown frustrated with being prevented from bringing forward his most radical ideas for the state pension, by introducing compulsory second pensions. Mr Brown was reluctant to endorse a plan that could be portrayed as tax increases. The Chancellor took control of the pensions review and forced Mr Field to postpone the green paper on pensions reform until autumn, long after the expected reshuffle.

Appointing Mr Field, a maverick, was a high-risk tactic for Mr Blair. His departure will have critics saying "I told you so". But his remarks suggest he intends to badger Mr Brown from the backbenches for the reforms he was unable to deliver in government.

Mr Brown's lieutenant at the Treasury, Alistair Darling, has been put in charge of cutting the cost of the welfare state. He proved a hard-headed negotiator over the Treasury's Comprehensive Spending Review, but the success of the Ministry of Defence in fighting off deeper cuts suggests he is unlikely to be as radical as Mr Field would like.

## THE TRAILBLAZER

## The first woman Chief Whip

By BARRIE CLEMENT

ANN TAYLOR, Labour MP since 1974, has been nudged up the government hierarchy — from Leader of the House of Commons to Chief Whip.

Mrs Taylor is seen as efficient rather than as fully "on side" by the Prime Minister. Her slight move rightwards in recent years has not qualified her as New Labour. In Opposition, Mrs Taylor was Education Spokeswoman, but moved to a "non political" post as Shadow Leader of the House.

Her views on education did not fully accord with those of Mr Blair. She said once that if given a piece of paper and asked to write down which job she wanted, she would have written one word: "Education".

She is regarded as competent, yet seems to lack the star quality which would qualify her for a senior Cabinet job.

Some of her critics argue that she has failed to push through her plans to make the

timing of Commons business more "family friendly". Nevertheless the post of Chief Whip has been awarded Cabinet status with her appointment.

A spokesman for the Prime Minister said she was someone Mr Blair knew well and liked. She was fully familiar with the mechanisms of Parliament and the Parliamentary Labour Party, said the spokesman. She was also "tough and popular".

First elected 14 years ago as an MP for Bolton West, she missed one parliament before returning as member for Dewsbury in 1987. She was an assistant whip when Labour was last in government and has since been on Labour's front bench in a variety of posts.

Mrs Taylor said politics had been the most important thing in her life since the age of 13 or 14. However, her ambition was limited to becoming a party agent. "This ... was more to do with class than with being a girl," Mrs Taylor said. She grew up on a council estate.

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Surprisingly ordinary prices

# Conmen are found guilty of £7m fraud

A SYNDICATE of international fraudsters set up base on the English riviera to con naive and vulnerable businessmen and investors out of almost £7m.

The men used Torquay's quiet respectability to conceal a sham banking operation through which they collected advance fees on securities for loans. Many business, most based overseas, crashed after losing out on the money they were promised. One unnamed businessman lost £9.3m as a result of the fraud.

Yesterday the full extent of the gang's deceit was revealed after two of the fraudsters were found guilty of conspiracy to defraud after a trial lasting nearly six months and costing £1.5m. The jury had deliberated for five days.

Peter Tuegel, 52, from Torquay, Devon, and Sebastiano Saja, 51, from London, will be sentenced later this year with ringleader Gerhard Martens, 40, also from Torquay. Martens had pleaded guilty earlier in the trial, having changed his original plea.

The court heard that the gang picked their victims with cunning and precision - ad-

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

vertising in foreign newspapers such as the German Die Welt - and often attracting overseas lawyers and businessmen. Their web spread to 22 countries including the US, Canada, South Africa and the Caribbean island of St Maartens.

The gang, operating out of an old TSB bank premises fronted with a legitimate bureau de change, encouraged their clients to mortgage their businesses to them to cover loan securities. Plushly-furnished offices suites, colourful letterheads and bogus bank certificates gave the appearance of legitimacy but the loans they promised never materialised - and finally lost a total of about £8.75m.

Another customer, a former bank worker from Munich, parted with £25,000 when he visited Torquay. Within weeks he made separate return journeys with two friends who parted with up to £200,000.

After the case, Stephen Myers, case officer with the Special Fraud Squad which began its investigation in July 1995, said: "They were a band of professional criminals who deliberately set out to defraud people. They are skilled liars but clearly not skillful enough to dupe a British jury, although they attempted to do so. "They set up in business in Torquay to avoid the prying eyes of City regulators and of police."

Detective Chief Insp Steven Harrison of Devon and Cornwall police said his officers had been investigating the gang for three years.

His officers raided the gang's office in the centre of Torquay in September 1995, having originally been tipped off by a German woman who had lost £450,000 in advance fees for

a supposed loan of £385m. Within days the SFO had court orders freezing Martens' assets worldwide. About a million documents - most written in German - were seized, of which 12,000 were to become exhibits in the trial.

A computer was used to present much of the evidence. A team of German interpreters

was drafted in, and investigators travelled to 14 different countries during the investigation.

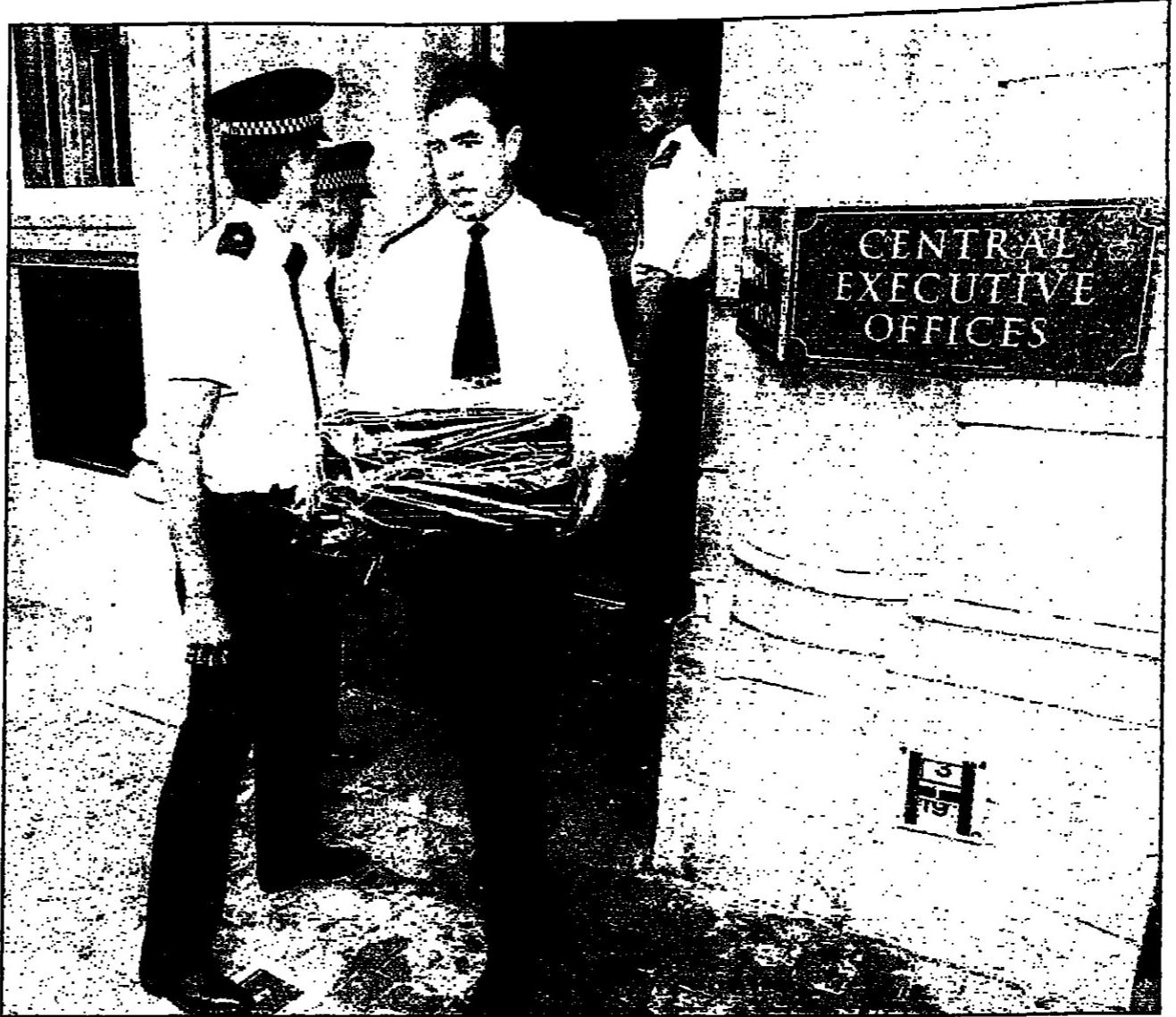
"We were dealing with a highly professional syndicate of international criminals. When Martens was first interviewed, he said that no investigating team was competent enough to understand his scheme," said

Chief Insp Harrison. The court heard that the gang's scheme had brought it more than £6.7m. Around £5.3m had been traced. Around £130,000 in foreign currency was found in a shoebox at Martens' home. Steps were being taken to recover the £750,000 still unaccounted for.

The court heard that

Martens' activities had previously attracted the attention of the Bank of England which learned of his advertisements in overseas newspapers. The bank wrote to him but Martens assured bank officials that his companies were not carrying banking facilities.

The gang will be sentenced in October.



Police retrieve documents from the former bank in Torquay. Right: conmen Saja, top, and Tuegel are led from court



Aper

*"Do I like shopping by phone? No, I much prefer dragging my kids around a supermarket for 3 hours."*



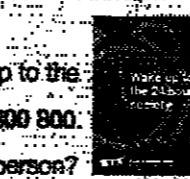
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مكتبة الأهل

## Stop obsession with results, say teachers

EDUCATION FOR young children is fast becoming "battery farming", which damages their chances later in life, teachers said yesterday.

Schools should concentrate on developing the self-esteem and language of five and six-year-olds and delay teaching the three Rs, the Professional Association of Teachers said.

Geraldine Everett, a member of the union's council, attacked the Government for imposing a regime of targets and testing on primary-school children.

She said children "will experience intensive battery farming in order to produce, at specified chronological ages, dozens of scores from baseline to graduation, if not from conception to cremation, irrespective of their biological, mental or social developmental differences.

"Does this really enable each of our children to develop fully across all the intelligences? Do they emerge from their school coops confident, having realised their potential? I fear not. Education is surely about more than achieving results."

"Yet this government is not concentrating on education, education, education, but on the three Rs - results, results, results."

She was speaking at the 40,000-strong union's annual conference in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The PAT is the smallest and most moderate of

the teaching unions, best known for its no-strike stance.

Its call echoes comments earlier this year by Margaret Hodge, chairman of the Commons Education Select Committee, who said international evidence showed that starting formal schooling too early could lead to problems later in children's school careers.

Last month the Liberal Democrats proposed delaying the start of formal education until the age of six.

A policy document proposed a new foundation curriculum for children over three, to prepare them to start formal lessons. From September all five-year-olds will be tested in



Hodge: children shouldn't start school too soon

elements of numeracy and literacy as part of a programme of "baseline assessments" in all primary schools.

Don Foster, education spokesman for the Liberal Democrats, told the conference: "Starting a child's education in an overcrowded reception class with an inappropriate curriculum taught by an inadequately qualified member of staff cannot ensure that education is high-quality."

New guidelines outlining how teachers can use force to restrain unruly pupils were welcomed by union leaders yesterday.

Teachers can push, pull or hold pupils if necessary, regulations sent to all schools yesterday made clear.

The government circular protects classroom staff from prosecution for assault if they break up fights or restrain violent youngsters at school.

But the circular warned teachers that any use of force must be "reasonable". Acceptable force includes blocking a child's path, holding, pushing, pulling and leading a pupil by the arm.

"More restrictive holds," are acceptable only in extreme circumstances. Teachers must try and persuade pupils to behave before intervening physically according to the guidelines.

Holding children by the neck or collar, touching or slapping them, are all banned, along with tripping or holding by the ear.

## Air crash inquiries

AIR ACCIDENT investigators are looking into a series of crashes over the past 48 hours which left seven people dead.

Two people were missing last night after a flying boat crashed in the sea during a VIP outing in the Solent.

A glider race saw one pilot killed after his aircraft was involved in a 3,000ft mid-air collision with another competitor. On Sunday, two paramedics were returning from a road accident when their Aero Spatial Squirrel helicopter ploughed into power lines and plunged to the ground.

Another incident involving a tiny microlight plane claimed the life of a 66-year-old man and his son. Pilot Keith Blades and his father Frank died near the village of Little Carlton, south east of Louth.

## IN BRIEF

### Boy, 5, killed in suspected arson

POLICE WERE yesterday investigating a suspected arson attack on a house in which a five-year-old boy died and a four-month-old baby was badly hurt. The baby had stopped breathing when firefighters carried him from the Essex house soon after being called to the blaze at 4.15am yesterday. He was revived and taken to hospital along with two women, aged 26 and 36, and an 11-year-old girl.

### Clowes on benefit fraud charges

FORMER FINANCIER and businessman Peter Clowes, 52, yesterday pleaded not guilty at Chester Crown Court to three counts of fraud relating to job seekers allowance claims. His trial was set for October.

### Truckers in go-slow over fuel tax

MOTORWAYS CAME to a halt yesterday after a convoy of 30 lorries crawled along roads in a protest against fuel duties. Truckers caused delays as they drove at 20mph through Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire.

### Pilot arrested in no-smoking row

A BRITISH pilot was questioned by Italian police after allegedly holding passengers "hostage" on his Go aircraft when no one owned up to illegally smoking on board.

# How one cancer doctor's errors have put 1,000 women at risk

25th July, 1998

**St George's Healthcare**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital No. \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Ms \_\_\_\_\_

We see from our records that you attended one of our colposcopy clinics, at St George's or the Bellingham Hospital, for examination of your cervix after an abnormal smear test. This examination normally involves taking a sample (biopsy) of the cervix to find out whether treatment is necessary.

We have recently reviewed our colposcopy service and see that you did not have a biopsy when you visited the clinic. As a precaution, we would therefore like to invite you back for another colposcopy session. If you have been seen in another hospital's colposcopy clinic since your last appointment at St George's or the Bellingham Hospital, you may not need to have a further assessment. If this is the case, please let us know on 0800 056 3661.

**THE REVELATION** of the apparent mistreatment of women who are at serious risk of cervical cancer by a senior doctor at St George's hospital in Tooting, south London, has delivered another blow to the beleaguered cervical screening service.

It is the sixth scandal in the past five years to have put patients at risk and undermined women's confidence in cervical screening. But, like the recent Bristol children's heart surgery case, it also raises disturbing questions about how failing doctors can be identified and stopped.

Graham Barker had run the colposcopy service at St George's since 1988, checking and treating women whose cervical smears showed moderate or severe abnormalities. Qualified in 1973, he was well-known in his field and had published books and papers on gynaecological cancer and a patients' guide called Your Smear Test.

In 1995, a new consultant gynaecologist, Desmond Barton, was appointed at St George's who disapproved of Mr Barker's technique. Mr Barton had worked in the US and brought a fresh approach to the practice of colposcopy but Mr Barker had, by then, been running the St George's service for eight years and resented the criticisms of the newcomer. During 1996, the two men had prolonged discussions but failed to agree on a common approach.

In October 1996, Mr Barker

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

agreed, as a way of resolving the dispute, to stop doing the loop excisions.

Last year, Mr Barton began to see patients with more advanced cancer than expected. In the second half of 1997, he recorded 10 women who needed more radical surgery than would have been the case, he believed, had they been properly treated at the colposcopy stage. In the first two months of this year, he recorded a further nine cases.

On 3 March, St George's decided there was enough evidence to ask Mr Barker to stop his colposcopy work and sent the 19 cases for review by an independent panel of experts. In May, the panel reported that seven had been satisfactorily treated, four gave "cause for concern" and eight were "unsatisfactory".

One area of concern was over Mr Barker's technique of doing loop excisions. The panel said the excision should be deep enough to ensure a margin of healthy cells was removed, with the abnormal cells, to guarantee that no abnormal cells were left behind. Mr Barker preferred to make a shallower excision and use a heated probe to destroy any remaining malignant cells at the base of the excision, in a process known as "diathermy".

Two of the 18 women died. One received acceptable treatment, according to the panel.

It is now more than two

years since concerns about Mr Barker's practice were first raised and five months since he was suspended and the review of his patients' records began. To cope with the 1,000 women being recalled, the hospital is increasing the number of colposcopy clinics from five to 17, but it will be up to a further two months before all the women are seen.

St George's denies that it could have acted more quickly, saying that the issue began as a professional dispute between

## WHERE CERVICAL TESTS HAVE GONE WRONG

■ 1993: Inverclyde Royal Hospital, Strathclyde. 20,000 smears rechecked after a woman developed cervical cancer. Examination of earlier smears taken from the woman revealed abnormalities that should have been spotted.

■ 1993: Gateshead, Tyne and Wear and East Sussex. 800 women recalled for repeat smears after two GPs were found to be using an inappropriate technique for taking smears. One was

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

using a gloved finger instead of the specially designed wooden spatula.

■ 1994: Blackpool. 300 women called for repeat smears after being told their GP had used the wrong technique.

■ 1994: Merthyr Tydfil. 18,000 smears rechecked at Prince Charles hospital after unusually low proportion of abnormal smears found.

■ 1996: Gorleston, Norfolk. 9,000 smears rechecked at the James Paget hospital after screeners, who took slides home to examine, made a series of errors. One woman screener was found to have misread 357 of the 10,000 smears she examined over three years. Some of her mistakes were described as the equivalent of a footballer missing an open goal.

■ 1996: Kent and Canterbury hospital. 90,000 smears rechecked after five women

developed invasive cancer and over 300 found to be in need of urgent treatment. Described as the worst screening scandal, an inquiry found management failings and problems at every level from the screeners to the consultants.

■ 1997: Warwickshire. 18,000 smears rechecked after low proportion of abnormal smears was detected. Monitoring disclosed 16 out of 500 smears had been misread.

## Early warning can halt the spread of deadly disease

BY STEVE CONNOR  
Science Editor

SCREENING FOR cervical cancer has been one of the success stories in cancer prevention and treatment, with thousands of women's lives being saved each year worldwide.

Scientists look for abnormalities in the cells of the cervix - the neck of the womb - which indicate a precancerous stage might develop into a potentially lethal cancer that invades the surrounding tissue.

Britain's national screening programme invites all women aged between 20 and 64 to have a cervical smear to check for these precancerous cells and identify those most at risk of developing full cancer.

During a smear, a wooden or plastic spatula is lightly wiped over the cervix to pick up a few cells, which can then be analysed under a microscope by scientists in a hospital cytology department.

About 85 per cent of women come forward and one in 12 smears is classified as abnormal, but doctors emphasise that it is still extremely rare for these abnormalities to be can-

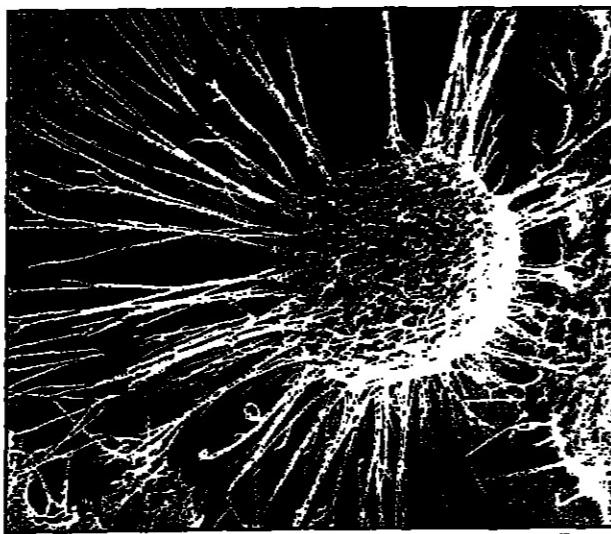
cerous. Some are defined as borderline and the patients are asked to come back for another smear in six months, but moderate or severe cases require a more detailed analysis using an instrument called a colposcope, which can magnify the cervical *in situ* for the doctor to examine directly.

Doctors classify women into three groups by using col-

poscopy. The first are those who have fewer than a third of the surface cervical cells affected.

This group may be left untreated to see if they return to normal after a few months.

Women who have up to two-thirds of their cells showing abnormalities will need to be treated to eliminate the defective cells. Colposcopy also allows doctors to treat the cells



Clumps of cancerous cells

Science Photo Library



A letter (inset) was sent out yesterday recalling 1,000 women to St George's Hospital (above) over questionable cervical smear test results

Nicola Kurtz

two senior doctors. No national guidelines for colposcopy were issued until January 1996 and the hospital says it acted "sensibly" at every stage to protect patients.

The incident will, nonetheless, renew concerns about standards in the NHS. The

women involved will all have been anxious about their abnormal smear result and worried about whether the colposcopy treatment would deal with the pre-cancerous changes observed. Their confidence in the NHS will have been shattered.

They are victims of a failure to keep up with changing standards to provide the best level of care. Measures were announced by ministers last month to ensure the performance of doctors is monitored, including a Commission for Health Improvement, which

will have the power to send hit squads into failing hospitals. Andrew Dillon, chief executive of St George's, said: "Our experience shows why some framework of self-regulation and policing of quality control needs to be applied. We are clear we are not alone."

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# Daydream believers take time out from the daily grind

ATTENTION WANDERED from the chamber of the House of Commons yesterday during questions to Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. Labour MPs' minds were elsewhere, dreaming of phone calls that might translate them from the drudgery of backbench sycophancy and the number 88 Clapham omnibus to the excitement of junior frontbench drudgery but with the perks of private secretary, red box and ministerial car.

By the time Mr Smith took his first question he already knew that he had been spared the Prime Minister's butcher's knife, and would live to face another reshuffle.

This seemed to transform him from his normal bookish reserve to a man possessed with a new sense of survival. Having been under the threat of the ministerial death sentence for several weeks his sense of relief was palpable.

When challenged about quango appointments by John Bercow (C, Buckingham) he snapped: "Appointments have to be made entirely on merit - something which doesn't apply to the Tory party."

Neither was Virginia Bottomley (C, SW Surrey) spared when she complained about the Government's treatment of the English Tourist Board. She was in obvious pain and explained she had just

been to the dentist. Mr Smith was in no mood to sympathise. "Coming from a [Tory] government which cut funding for tourism, I forbore to say dentistry, that's a bit rich".

Peter Ainsworth, Tory spokesman for culture, media and sport, fared no better as he paid Mr Smith a back-handed compliment. He congratulated him for "hanging on; no one is more delighted than me". Mr Smith shot back: "Can we have some grown-up opposition?"

This was the curtain-raiser for the main appearance of the afternoon, the newly minted Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in the elegant shape of Peter Mandelson, who was due to answer

questions on the Dome, for which he will retain responsibility.

Looking like the cat who has just had the cream with gallons more to come, Mr Mandelson was slightly taken aback by his first question from Gordon Prentice (Lab, Pendle), who did not even congratulate the new department head.

Mr Prentice demanded to know what use the minister makes of lobbying organisations to promote funding for the Dome. Mr Mandelson rejected suggestions that he used such companies, but was pressed by Mr Prentice: "I expected a more illuminating reply from a minister who casts such a long shadow." He accused Mr Mandelson of having off-the-record meetings with lobbyists. "What does he say privately, and will he invite me to attend? If not, why not?"

The Dome supremo was not amused: Mr Prentice need not wait by any phones.

Mr Ainsworth rose again, and in the first public acknowledgement in the House of the great man's translation, congratulated Mr Mandelson. "He knows a great deal about trade; we look forward to seeing what he knows about industry," he said, mysteriously.

Robin Corbett (Lab, Birmingham, Erdington) offered the first genuine compliment. Originally, he wanted the Dome to be built in Birmingham, "but I visited Greenwich, it was very impressive and I wish it success".

Robert Symes (C, Poole) was worried about HFCs, and believed it was a shame they were being used at the Dome. I fathomed that these were something nasty to do with global warming. Mr Symes wanted the minister to "leave a note for his successor" about their use. He had not realised that Mr Mandelson, having had no portfolios, now had many.

MPs went on to discuss the Sandline affair with the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, saying ministers were not at fault. The tall guy will be the High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, Peter Penfold, but there will be a rap on the knuckles only. Mr Cook had to put up with grumps from Michael Howard, the opposition spokesman, but all attention was focused on the reshuffle.

# Officials blamed by arms inquiry

A CATALOGUE of official contacts with mercenaries who breached the Sierra Leone arms embargo was revealed by an official inquiry last night.

Sir Thomas Legg's 150-page report revealed that staff on the Foreign Office's Equatorial Africa Desk, defence advisers, the British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone and even, at a later stage, the most senior official in Robin Cook's department, knew what was happening but failed to tell ministers.

Sandline escaped prosecution for selling military aid and arms to the exiled regime of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah after it emerged that officials knew about the contract. The United Nations had imposed an embargo on everyone connected with the country, including its exiled government, after a coup in 1997.

The report chronicled a series of contacts between High Commissioner Peter Penfold, Foreign Office officials and Sandline representatives stretching over several months.

It even revealed that when Mr Penfold was appointed in March 1997, he was sent to the King's Road office block where Sandline is based to see a representative of a mining company with interests in Sierra Leone. The company was linked to Sandline, as were the representatives he saw.

Later, Mr Penfold was involved in every stage of the contract between Sandline and the Sierra Leone government. President Kabbah, to whom he was close, asked and received his advice on whether he should accept the deal. Sandline also alleged that Mr Penfold put them in touch with President Kabbah, though Mr Penfold denies this.

Mr Penfold was "unwise" and showed a lack of caution in his dealings with Tim Spicer, Sandline's senior official, Sir Thomas said. However, he did not recommend he should be disciplined. In particular, Mr Penfold failed properly to read a copy of the UN arms embargo and so was unaware that it covered President Kabbah's government.

## Strong voice for human rights

During the committee stage debate on the Northern Ireland Bill, Paul Murphy, Northern Ireland minister, said the proposed Human Rights Commission would be "one of the strongest human rights institutions in Europe". It would advise the Government and the Assembly on human rights; examine Assembly legislation and offer opinions on whether it was compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights, and advise on drawing up a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland.

## Today

Commons: Health questions. Northern Ireland Sentences Bill, Lords amendments. Crime and



## THE MERCENARIES AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE

### SANDLINE - timetable of contacts with officials.

March 1997: Peter Penfold, High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, visits Sandline's sister company, Branch Energy on Foreign Office (FO) advice. He meets Tony Buckingham and Rupert Bowen, both of whom are linked to Sandline. 10 December: Buckingham and Bowen visit the FO on behalf of Branch Energy.

23 December: Buckingham and Tim Spicer, senior official of Sandline, meet Penfold for lunch on the day the arms contract is signed. 30 December: Penfold spells out his involvement in a letter to a FO official. It disappears, but he keeps a copy. 19 January 1998: Spicer visits FO to brief on his Sierra Leone contract. 28 January: Penfold meets

Spicer at Sandline's office on the King's Road, London. 29 January: Penfold briefs FO officials about Sandline and gives them its strategy document. 2 February: Penfold gives a minute to FO officials confirming arms contract. 18 February: FO refers allegation of breach of UN arms embargo to Customs & Excise; criminal investigation begins.

28 February: Spicer phones Penfold to say the weapons have arrived in Guinea, where the Sierra Leone government is exiled. 8 March: A newspaper alleges Penfold colluded in the embargo breach. 13 March: Penfold sends a full review of his contact with Sandline to the FO. 15 April: Spicer phones Penfold to ask for a meeting. Penfold refuses.

into Sandline in mid-April. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Dawn Primarolo, was told in early April because she was responsible for customs, but she had no reason to pass on the information, because she thought the Foreign Office min-

isters were already briefed. The report drew on evidence from no fewer than 10 ministers and more than 50 officials, and Mr Cook told the House of Commons yesterday that he had accepted every one of its recommendations. These in-

cluded a new unit to enforce embargoes - the previous one was closed down by the Conservatives in 1996 - closer monitoring on contacts with mercenaries or "private military companies", better communications and better briefing of ministers. In particular, the quality of parliamentary briefings to ministers needed "serious attention", he said. Officials should be more sensitive to domestic politics and to domestic legislation affecting them.

# Don't be tempted, civil servants told

### LOBBYING

By KIM SENGUPTA

But the need for propriety is crucial."

Sir Richard acknowledges that lobbyists are "bound to want to talk up their own influence and contacts", and he warns officials to be vigilant about any possible conflicts of interest, and not to be "tempted into doing something which would lay you open to criticism or be misunderstood".

Leaking confidential or intrinsically sensitive material to lobbyists, or even arranging privileged access to ministers, was "completely unacceptable" and could lead to dismissal, Sir Richard said. But there were also "grey areas" where "common sense" was needed in



Sir Richard: 'Vigilance'

cluding acceptance of gifts, remarks which "could be represented" as leaking information, and only meeting groups from one side of an issue.

Civil servants should exert

judgement and consider a scale of luxury when accepting hospitality. Officials should ask themselves whether entertainment was too "lavish" and more than they could afford personally. Senior mandarins should also consider whether their presence at a function could be viewed as endorsement.

The report was made public by the Prime Minister yesterday in response to backbench questions prompted by the recent spate of stories about the influence of lobbyists, many with New Labour links, who boasted that they could obtain Government "inside information" for clients.

Yesterday, the newly appointed Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Peter Mandelson, was pressed by Labour

backbencher Gordon Prentice, MP for Pendle, over his connections with lobbying companies. Mr Mandelson had become embroiled in the cash-for-access affair when his friend and former researcher, Derek Draper, while working for GPC Market Access, claimed that the then minister without portfolio had vetted his news-paper column.

Since then Mr Draper has lost his job, his newspaper column and apparently his friendship with Mr Mandelson. Sir Richard said in his report that when there was no impropriety involved, there was no question of severing social friendships with lobbyists, and "if you are married to one, you don't have to get divorced".

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### CS is safe

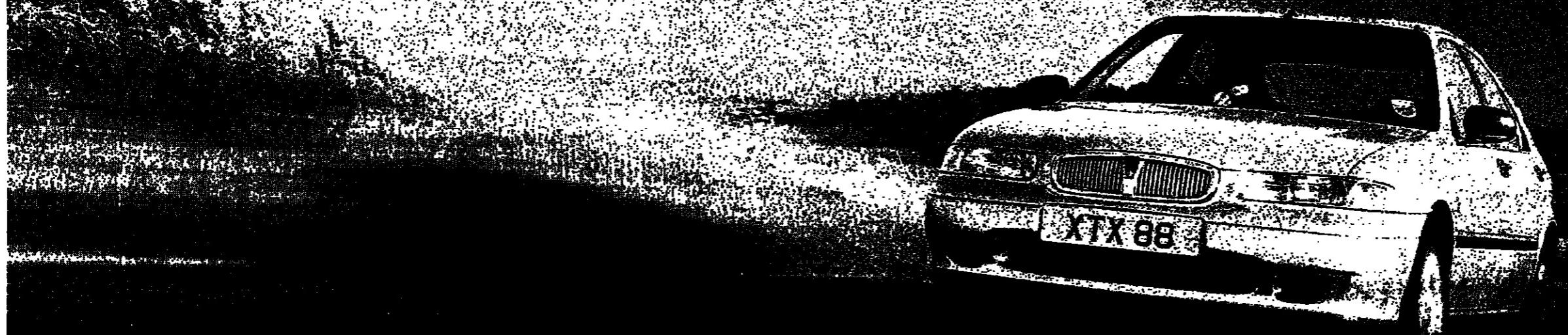
CS spray has been scientifically evaluated and found not to present any significant threat to human health. Lord Williams of Mostyn said in a written reply last night to Lord Dholakia (Lab Dem). He said that its use by police is under review.

### Behind bars

Joyce Quin, Minister of State at the Home Office, announced that the prison population is 1.25 per 1,000 in England and Wales, compared with 0.87 in 1993. She was answering the Deputy Leader of the Lib Dems, Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed).

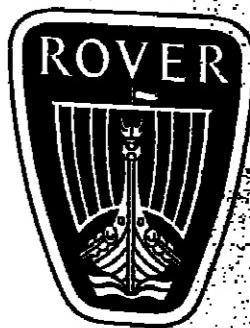


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# Bentley secrets drove eyewitness PC to his death

BY KIM SENGUPTA

A POLICE officer decorated for his part in the capture of Derek Bentley died broken, lonely and racked with guilt because he believed the teenager's execution for murdering a colleague was a terrible miscarriage of justice. *The Independent* can reveal.

PC Bob Jaggs was awarded the British Empire Medal for his bravery on the night PC Sidney Miles was killed on a rooftop in Croydon, south London - a hanging that led to Bentley being hanged for murder while his accomplice, Christopher Craig, was jailed for actually pulling the trigger.

Before his own death almost 30 years later, PC Jaggs, by then an alcoholic, told a colleague he was haunted by knowledge that he had found unbearable - that the bullet that killed PC Miles probably came from a police gun and that Craig, who allegedly jumped from the roof, had been thrown off by police officers.

At their Old Bailey trial in 1952, Craig and Bentley were found guilty of the murder of PC Miles. Craig, the jury decided, had fired the fatal shot. But at the age of 16 he was too young to be hanged and was jailed. Bentley, convicted on the basis that he and Craig were engaged in a joint enterprise, went to the gallows, despite a massive public outcry.

This week the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham, Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Collins will give their judgment on an appeal to quash



Bentley's conviction. Most observers believe the appeal will be successful and that Bentley will be exonerated.

PC Jaggs, a much-decorated ex-serviceman, left the Metropolitan Police in the mid-Seventies when he was haunted by an ill-health pension. By this time he had a severe drink problem. A colleague who tried to help him at the time and who is a high-profile serving officer, said: "I certainly remember the words he used - If you carried the secret I have earned all these years, you would be an alcoholic."

Jaggs believed that Sidney Miles was not killed by Craig but by mistake in police fire. The bullet that killed Miles was never found, and a proper forensic examination would have proved that Craig could not have killed the police officer. But Craig was firing at the police officers, and he must have believed himself that he shot Miles.

The calibre of the bullet that killed PC Miles has been shrouded in controversy. He

was killed by a large-calibre bullet. Craig was 39 feet from the policeman when he opened fire with a 455 Eley. "At the time, feelings were running high," Jaggs said. Craig was thrown off the rooftop by some officers and received some pretty severe injuries. But it was the hanging of Bentley which really affected Jaggs. And I must accept, after listening to him, it affected me," said the officer.

The fall from the rooftop left Craig with a fractured spine, ribcage and forearm. He was released after serving ten and a half years of his jail sentence. Now 61, a retired farmer, he was prepared to give evidence at the Bentley appeal, but was not called.

Of all the police officers on the rooftop at the time of the killing, the least is known about PC Jaggs. Even members of Bentley's family and campaign team are unaware of what happened to him after he received his BEM. The former colleague said: "Before his downward spiral began with the drinking,

Jaggs was a very professional, highly thought-of officer. He was always impeccably turned out. His problems began with what happened to Bentley. After he left the force, he deteriorated rapidly. He was eventually found dead lying in the gutter. He had swallowed his own vomit. It was very, very sad."

Mike Bennett, chairman of the Metropolitan Police Federation, was among the officers who tried to help PC Jaggs when he was leaving the police force, and spoke to him about his experience. "I don't want to discuss what Bob Jaggs said to me. But what he did say made me decide that Bentley should not have been hanged, and has also made me an opponent of capital punishment."

John O'Connor, another officer who served with PC Jaggs and later became commander of Scotland Yard's Flying Squad, said: "There is no doubt that Jaggs had been through something particularly traumatic and at the end that contributed to his death."



PC Bob Jaggs turned to drink after Derek Bentley was hanged. Above (from left): Bentley, PC Sidney Miles and Christopher Craig. Main picture: Popperfoto

## Police use lasers to beat laws on bugging

BY IAN BURRELL  
Home Affairs Correspondent

POLICE FORCES are increasingly using bugging devices based on laser-beam and microwave technology that allow them to work around the law.

*Under Surveillance*, a report published today by Justice, the legal human-rights organisation, calls for a system to regulate the lawful interception of all forms of communications, including electronic mail.

Once the preserve of MI5, the Security Service and specialist units in the Metropolitan Police, the use of listening devices is becoming common for forces throughout Britain. But long-distance microphones allow officers to avoid breaching the Police Act 1997, which outlaws trespass or criminal damage.

The report states that the Data Protection Registrar should have investigation and audit powers over criminal intelligence data, much of which Justice claims "may be highly speculative".

Justice says the current legislation provides no protection to people being bugged in premises where their landlord or employer has given permission to the police, or to those who are being recorded while in police or prison cells.

The report was carried out with the Association of Chief Police Officers, which is also anxious for reform.

Madeleine Colvin, the report's author, said: "The Police Act is a nonsense. It is designed to protect the police rather than uphold the right to privacy."

The number of warrants granted for telephone taps in Britain has increased by 75 per cent since 1992.

## How sick was my valley - a Welsh soap opera

BY ROGER DOBSON

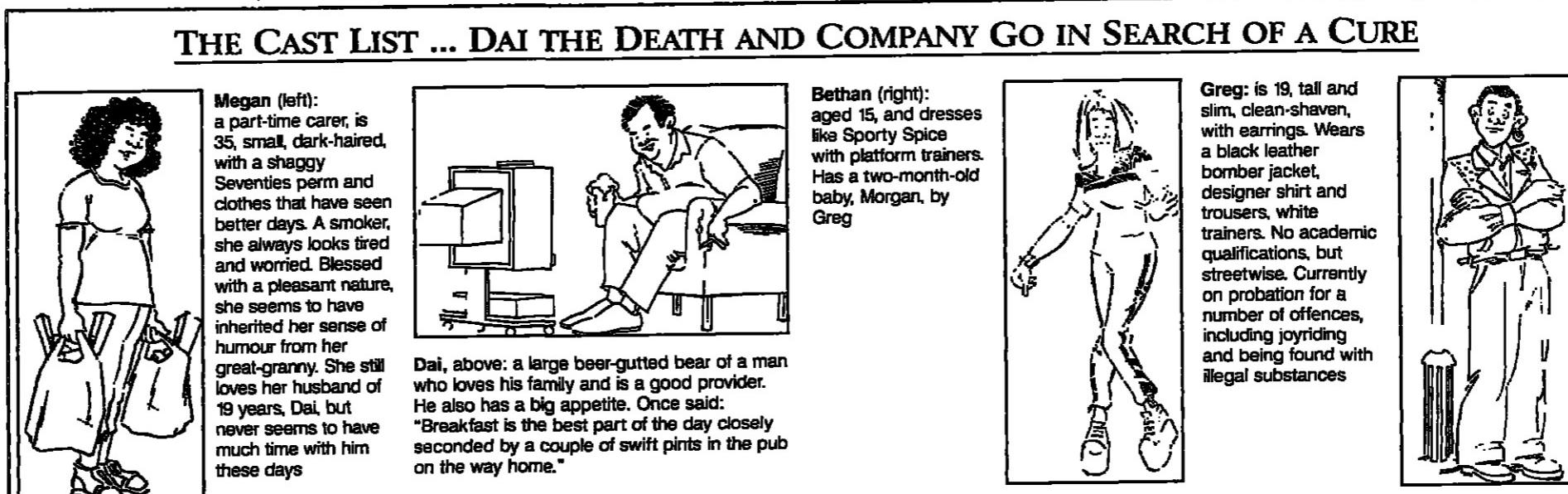
A HEALTH authority has run into fierce criticism for publishing its annual report in the style of a soap opera - complete with scathing criticisms of the public.

The report, published Tuesday, is meant to portray an everyday story of working class Welsh folk. Instead it describes them in none-too-flattering and distinctly unhealthy terms.

There's Megan ("the marm") with her sad looks and Seventies perm, the chauvinistic husband Dai, with his beer gut, schoolgirl daughter Bethan and her baby and boyfriend Greg, who's always in and out of jail for drugs and joy-riding.

And then there is, or was, Granny Rose, who has just smoked herself to death after her husband ran off, bad-breathed Granny Flo, and son Owen, a computer nerd.

The report, by health managers in Swansea, is the first such soap opera ever produced and departs radically from the usual dry format for such an-



nual reports. As well as the unflattering characters, there are the usual facts and figures. Critics claim that the report, entitled *Bethan's Story*, perpetuates stereotypes of the Welsh. "There is now a feeling of

self-confidence in Wales with the Assembly, and images like these can lead to people believing that this is how people here behave and how they are," said Morgan Chambers, a former county councillor in the val-

leys and an environmentalist who is bidding to become a member of the new National Assembly.

"This kind of approach is negative, and these do seem to be dated images."

Dr Peter Donnelly, the director of public health for the Swansea-based Iechyd Morgannwg Health Authority, seems to have anticipated complaints when he wrote his foreword to the book.

"Some may object to our area being portrayed in a less than perfect light. Others may be offended by our explicitness. There is always a danger that we will be seen as condonatory on one hand or par-

ticularistic on the other; in the way we portray out fictional family which, of necessity, is something of a caricature," he said. The aim, he said, was to raise awareness about public health issues through an every-

In a style more *Eastenders* than Dylan Thomas, the book follows a year in the life of the fictional family with health and social problems.

There is, for instance, the time leading up to 15-year-old Bethan getting pregnant:

"Let me have some of that," said Bethan, grabbing his arm. They struggled with the tin of beer, spilling the foaming liquid on themselves, laughing. She held the can to her lips and, with her head tilted back, he kissed her on the neck ...

Then there is the point at which Bethan tells Dai that she is expecting a baby, causing him to have a stroke:

"Eeeeeeee, Beth," he managed to gasp, shutting his eyes and feeling decidedly griddy ...

"Don't say any more now, you've given me quite a shock."

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# Bhutto denies kickback charges

**BENAZIR BHUTTO**, the former prime minister of Pakistan, appeared in court yesterday to answer charges that she received more than £2m in kickbacks on a government contract for hum-dred Polish tractors.

Mrs Bhutto, 46, denies the charges, which have been brought against her by a special investigating commission set up by the present government in Pakistan. They claim that Mrs Bhutto and her husband earned hundreds of millions of pounds from corruption before being dismissed from power 18 months ago. Three other corruption charges have been registered against Mrs Bhutto by the investigators. She denies all of them.

In violent scenes outside the court, in the north-eastern city of Lahore, supporters of Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party, were baton-charged by police. Twenty-five people were injured, one seriously.

The demonstration was the first of a series that party leaders said were planned for the coming weeks.

Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, and his Cabinet have been widely criticised in Pakistan for mishandling the economy since the country's nuclear tests nearly two months ago.

Despite still retaining a massive majority in parliament, popular support for Mr Sharif has been severely eroded by recently introduced economic measures, which have hit the middle class and the poor.

In the past week strikes have gripped the country. In the north-western city of Peshawar police used tear gas to disperse rickshaw drivers protesting against the price of fuel while in Karachi and the east

BY JASON BURKE  
in Karachi

of the country thousands of retailers have shut their shops to demonstrate against the planned extension of sales tax.

Mr Sharif has always been seen as the champion of Pakistan's commercial classes and to lose their support is a serious blow.

Speaking outside the court yesterday Ms Bhutto said that the time had come for a broad-based coalition administration. "The formation of a national government is the only solution to the problems facing Pakistan," she said.

At the weekend Ms Bhutto signalled to other opposition groups that she was interested in working together to oust Mr Sharif.

Talking to reporters at Karachi airport on her arrival from Dubai on Sunday evening she offered to negotiate with the Mutahida Quami Movement, until recently allies of Mr Sharif and bitter enemies of Ms Bhutto's husband Asif Ali Zardari.

The official said the nuns, employed as nurses by a char-

A HIGHLANDER of Yemen, where the number of guns is estimated to be more than three times the population of 16 million Patricia Aithie

## Three nuns shot dead in Yemen

A GUNMAN who had fought in Bosnia shot dead three Catholic nuns from Mother Teresa's order in Yemen yesterday.

"A man suspected to be an Islamic extremist opened fire on three nuns and killed them instantly," said an official from the governorate of Hodeida, 140 miles west of the Yemeni capital Sanaa.

The official said the nuns, employed as nurses by a char-

ity, were killed on their way to work. Two of them were from India and one from the Philippines.

Residents detained the gunman immediately after the incident as he tried to escape. They handed him over to the police.

About a dozen nuns work in the medical profession in Hodeida, a Red Sea port. "The

going on... He confessed to the crime and said he would go to heaven," the official said.

The suspect, Abdillah al-Nasher, 22, from Sanaa, had said during questioning that he killed the three nurses because they were "preaching Christianity".

The official added that the suspect had fought in the Bosnian conflict as a volunteer in 1992. He said Nasheri had lived in Bosnia since 1992, had

acquired Bosnian nationality and had married a Bosnian woman.

Many Muslims went to fight alongside their brethren in the Bosnian war.

Residents said it was the first report of violence in Yemen against the nuns, who have been providing humanitarian help in the impoverished state for several decades.

More than 100 foreigners, including diplomats but mainly

tourists, have been kidnapped by disgruntled tribesmen in Yemen since 1992. Most were released unharmed.

Guns, mainly Kalashnikov automatic rifles, are openly carried in Yemen, one of the poorest Arab countries.

Unofficial estimates put the number of firearms in the country at 50 million, more than three times the population of 16 million.

—Reuters

## Serbs claim victory at Kosovo road link

SERBIAN SECURITY forces announced yesterday they had captured a stronghold of Kosovo Albanian guerrillas in a campaign to regain control of main transport routes across the province.

Serbian state television broadcast what it described as footage of ex-Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) positions in Lepusnik, "a notorious terrorist base", which it said security forces had won back on Sunday.

The footage showed

trenches, ammunition, communication equipment, a heavy machine-gum, rebel uniforms and a makeshift surgery.

The Serb Media Centre in Pristina, the Kosovo regional capital, said the security forces had unblocked most of the Pristina-Pec road at the weekend, eliminating several dozen KLA barricades along the way.

If true, Lepusnik's capture would underline a shift in fortunes for the KLA, which has seized up to half of Kosovo

since February only to get knocked back by a recent Serbian counter-offensive.

The KLA's momentum began to falter when it was repelled by superior Serbian firepower in an attempt to take its first big town, Orshovac, a week ago.

The Serbian offensive has coincided with an increase in shooting incidents along Serbia's border with northern Albania, a backwater used by the KLA to muster fighters and weapons.

The Albanian Interior Ministry said Serbian troops fired on the Albanian police building at the border checkpoint in Morini early on Sunday, then tried to shoot their way through.

In Tirana, the Albanian government denounced Serbia's "provocation" of Albanian forces along its border with Kosovo and called on Belgrade to respect its territorial integrity. Tirana said Serb artillery shells had landed on its

territory four times in just over a week, branding the incidents as attempts to engulf it in a wider war.

In Brussels, it was announced that three senior officials from the European Union will go to Belgrade today for talks with the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, Zivadin Jovanovic, about the Kosovo crisis. A request to meet Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic remained unanswered.

—Reuters/AP

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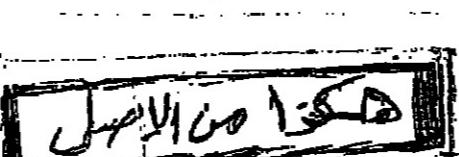
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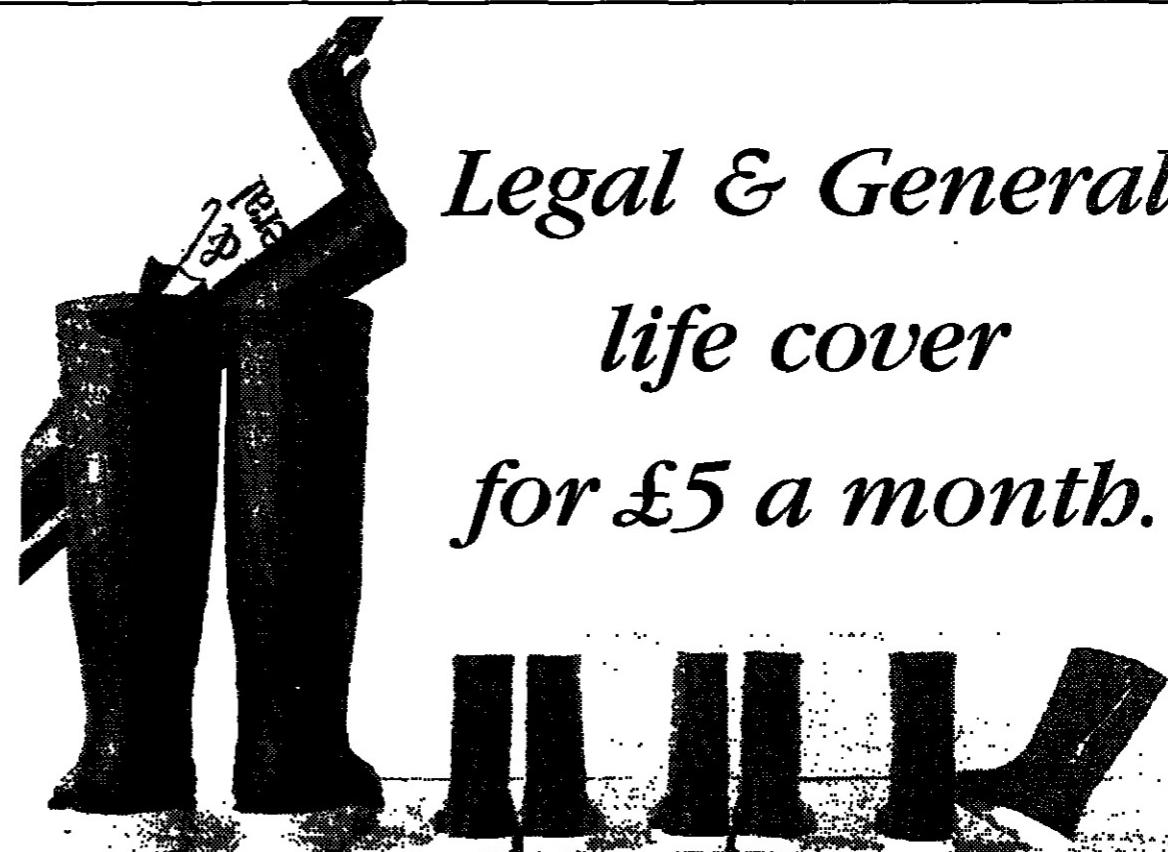
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President Bill Clinton giving a thumbs up and ignoring questions on the subpoena at Aspen airport, Washington, as he boarded his aircraft for Albuquerque at the weekend after golfing in the mountains

Rick Wilking

## Communication breakdown threatens LA school system

WHEN CALIFORNIA voted to end the state's system of bilingual education a little more than a month ago, many of the teachers and school principals directly affected hoped the issue would somehow go away.

It did not seem possible that more than a million schoolchildren, most of them Spanish speakers with only a shaky command of English, would have to switch language in the classroom overnight.

But that is the prospect in store when pupils return from their summer holidays, the first as early as next week. An effort to have the vote known as Proposition 227 annulled on constitutional grounds failed, so Californian schools will now have to find a way to transform the way they operate and roll back a 22-year history of bilingual education.

The result promises to be chaos. Many bilingual teachers are reluctant to follow the new rules and there is no more than a skeleton of a new teaching syllabus in place. With time running short, parents are being invited to plump for one of a series of options permitted under the proposition.

They range from one-year immersion classes in English to application for a special waiver, exempting their children from the change-over altogether. Until schools know which pupils are doing what,

BY ANDREW GUMBEL  
in Los Angeles

they will be unable to draw up even a basic timetable.

"It's going to be a bumpy ride for the first year," said Ruben Zacarias, superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, which alone has 310,000 limited-English students, most of them Hispanic.

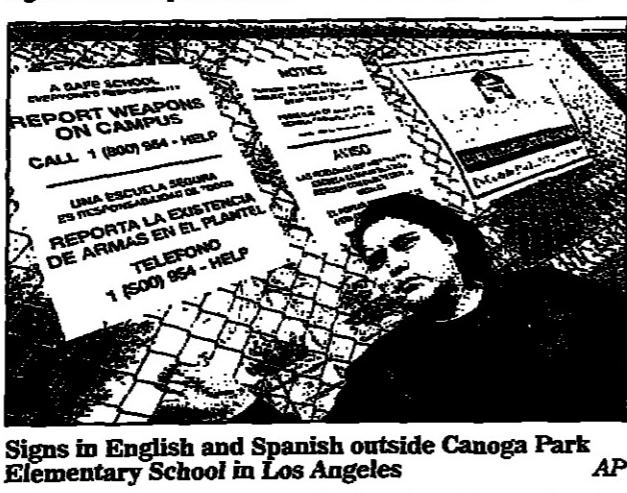
Opponents of the proposition believe the proposal is wrong-headed and harmful and are determined to seek further legal loopholes to have it knocked down. But supporters of the reform, including nearly all the parents of Latino schoolchildren, see the impending chaos as yet another sign of the incompetence of Cal-

ifornia's school districts. The success of the proposition was in itself an acknowledgement that the state school system has failed. Instead of producing a new generation of truly bilingual children, it has kept Latinos trapped within their own language, while failing to maintain standards of everyone else.

"To call bilingual education a misnomer is in practice it has been about relegating Latinos to second-class citizenship by failing to provide them with the linguistic tools to get ahead in life. It's a class issue," said Alice Callaghan, an ardent social campaigner and key supporter of Prop 227.

According to Ms Callaghan, the gigantic LA Unified District has become a byword for poor standards, unwieldy bureaucracy and administrative incompetence. Add to that a rising wave of hostility towards Latinos and bilingual education reveals itself to be one of the most highly charged of social issues.

One board member of the LA Unified School District, Jeff Horton, told a public meeting he saw the proposition as riding "a wave of anti-immigrant and anti-foreigner sentiment". Ms Callaghan, who believes the proposition is in the Hispanic community's best interests, accused Mr Horton of "sloppiness and arrogance". And the new school year has not even begun.



Signs in English and Spanish outside Canoga Park Elementary School in Los Angeles

AP

## Manhattan stirs from the debris

SIX DAYS after the partial collapse of a giant scaffolding tower on a new skyscraper in the heart of Manhattan's theatre district, New York City succeeded yesterday in reopening the major arteries of Broadway and Sixth Avenue.

Chaos has reigned since early last Tuesday when parts of a tower peeled away from the 50-storey building that is to be the new

home of the Condé Nast magazine empire. Wreckage showered the area and crashed through the roof of a nearby hotel, killing one woman.

The accident has been a disaster for local businesses as well as for residents who were forced to evacuate their homes. A national animal rights group was planning to sue the city be-

cause residents were not allowed to rescue their pets.

One high-profile victim is the adjacent Roundabout Theater Company, whose hit production of Cabaret has been cancelled since the accident.

Yesterday's partial reopening of the area followed a weekend of surgery on the unstable scaffolding tower. Engineers sheathed it in nylon netting to contain debris that might fall

Hoping to assuage the anger of animal rights groups, the city authorities announced they had rescued four cats, two ferrets, a guinea pig, a cockatiel, a gerbil and a pair of goldfish. Four cats were still missing.

The cause is not yet known, with speculation that at least four bolts fastening the tower to the skyscraper were missing, either worked loose or removed by construction workers.

66

BY DAVID USBORNE

# The Clinton show keeps rolling as subpoena looms

BY MARY DEJEVSKY  
in Washington

LAWYERS FOR President Bill Clinton were trying to reach a compromise yesterday with the independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, that would fend off a constitutional showdown between two of the three branches of the United States constitutional system: the executive and the judiciary.

With Mr Clinton subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury in the Monica Lewinsky case as early as today, White House officials reported "good progress" in the talks, but forecast that negotiations could continue for several days.

Mr Clinton himself remained above the fray, on a visit to the south-western state of New Mexico for his latest public meeting on the state pensions system and a series of Democratic Party fundraising events, and he made no reference to the potential crisis. The US political establishment was also otherwise engaged: normal congressional business was in abeyance to mourn the two police shot in the capital last Friday, as preparations proceeded for today's memorial service in the Capitol rotunda.

Legal and political analysts, however, were in no doubt

advice was reportedly that he should not defy the subpoena because this would make it look as if he had something to hide.

Instead, he was to cultivate an air of wanting to co-operate – so long as the dignity of the presidential office was maintained. This is the stance that has been adopted by the White House since Mr Starr served the subpoena last week.

One compromise apparently being canvassed yesterday was the possibility of bussing the 23 members of the grand jury to see the president at the White House, rather than requiring Mr Clinton to go to them at the Washington DC courthouse.

A White House offer for Mr Clinton to provide answers to written questions has apparently been rejected by Mr Starr, who is now considering a new offer of videotaped testimony before the judge and lawyers, along the lines of Mr Clinton's testimony in the civil suit for sexual harassment brought by Paula Jones – which was dismissed in the spring.

Mr Starr, however, is reportedly insisting that Mr Clinton should be directly confronted by the grand jury. Unless the independent prosecutor gives ground on this, bussing – or possibly the use of closed-circuit television – looks like the only option.

While the White House and Mr Starr have clearly been concerned to play down the drama of the subpoena – the first time a sitting president has been summoned to appear before a grand jury in US history – there was no guarantee yesterday that the two sides would be able to agree.

For one leading Republican, Senator Orrin Hatch, failure to answer the subpoena would place Mr Clinton on the wrong side of the law and thus expose him – as a demonstrated charge of obstructing the cause of justice surely would – to impeachment.

For others, however, including Republicans, the constitutional position is by no means as clear. The Supreme Court ruled against Richard Nixon, when the former president tried to resist handing over the Watergate tapes, but in this case it is the President, not property or evidence, that is being summoned, and for this there is no precedent.

## Congress to honour dead guards

BY MARY DEJEVSKY  
in Washington

THE AMERICAN Congress yesterday remembered the two police officers shot dead protecting them from a gunman. "It was a death in the family," said the Senate Majority Leader, Trent Lott, after a moment of silence in the chamber.

The House of Representatives began work on a resolution formally to allow the use of the Capitol Rotunda for a memorial service for the officers, Jacob Chestnut, 58, and John Gibson, 42.

The Rotunda memorial ceremony for the two men is an honour usually reserved for the President and national heroes. Speakers at the ceremony will include President Bill Clinton, Vice-President Al Gore, the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, and Mr Lott. The coffins will lie in state in the Rotunda.

As the flags over the Capitol remained at half-mast, congressional staff and employees returned to the Hill for the first time since the shootings. But security was heightened.

with additional police officers in the Capitol grounds, at entrances to the building and throughout its corridors.

The area where the killings occurred was off-limits to the public, a yellow rope draped across the centre portion of the building's famous east front, including the entrance the gunman used.

The suspect in the shootings, Russell E Weston Jr, 41, remained in a serious condition at Washington General Hospital yesterday, with bullet wounds to the chest, arms, thigh and buttocks. His parents, Russell Weston Sr and Arba Jo Weston, said that they had not spoken to their son since the shooting. "It just doesn't make any sense," his father said on ABC TV.

Weston, who is said to have a history of mental illness, was expected to have a hearing in absentia at a district court on charges of killing the two officers. Gibson will be buried on Thursday in Virginia. A day later, Chestnut, a 20-year Air Force veteran, will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

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# Opposition suspects foul play over Cambodia poll

CAMBODIAN OFFICIALS postponed the release yesterday of preliminary results from parliamentary elections, raising fears that delays may lead to the figures being altered in favour of the current ruler, Hun Sen.

More than 90 minutes after the results from the weekend vote were due to be announced, election officials said incomplete documents and communiques had forced an overnight delay until today.

"The results are not clear enough to be released," said Samraing Kimsain, of the National Election Committee, which is dominated by Hun Sen's supporters. "We want to wait for more clear information."

A big victory by Hun Sen's

BY KER MUNTHIT  
in Phnom Penh

Cambodian People's Party might bring a more stable government to the country. But if the result is not accepted by the opposition, or by the millions of voters who queued on Sunday to cast their ballots, the outcome could simply be more turmoil for a nation that has suffered 30 years of civil war and the Khmer Rouge genocide of the late 1970s.

Few independent election

observers predicted that any of the three major parties contesting the poll would win an outright majority of the 122 seats at stake in the National Assembly.

One opposition leader, Sam Rainsy, said the delay raised fears that that appeared to be Hun Sen's aim. "They want to buy time, they want to arrange the result of the election," he said.

Forty nations have sent 678 observers to monitor the elections. Last week, the International Observers Group disappointed the opposition by saying it would be prepared to endorse a result that was "broadly representative of the will of the Cambodian people". That statement, it was felt, fell short of an international commitment to ensuring that the election was "free and fair".

All three major parties claimed sweeping victories as members reported results from various locations yesterday. However, the violence-marred election campaign and Hun Sen's steps to pack key agencies with his backers had raised expectations that the final figures would give him victory.

Mr Rainsy, a popular former finance minister, had said earlier that Hun Sen's party was

the clear loser in the election, according to the results that his activists had obtained as ballots were counted.

In 1993, Hun Sen's chief rival, Prince Ranariddh, won the United Nations sponsored elections, backed by 20,000 peacekeepers. Hun Sen refused to accept the result and threatened to start a civil war. As a result he was able to force his way into a co-premiership. The

tense arrangement collapsed last year when he sent tanks into the streets to depose Prince Ranariddh. Since then he has been Cambodia's sole Prime Minister.

The new elections were called in an attempt to restore international legitimacy and aid, but the opposition was denied access to the media, party workers were killed and voters were intimidated.

# Soldiers pull out of East Timor

INDONESIA IS planning to withdraw 1,000 of its troops from East Timor today in a move that may turn out to mark the beginning of the end of Indonesia's 23-year occupation.

More than two decades of rule from Jakarta have done nothing to diminish the feeling that this is an occupied island, where the occupiers can only sustain their rule with the presence of an estimated 15,000 troops. Further troop withdrawals are promised.

There is a sense of endgame. After weeks of demonstrations, an uneasy stand-off with the army, a mysterious series of night-time raids and a flurry of diplomatic activity, Dili, the capital of East Timor, is suspiciously calm.

The troops are resolutely keeping off the streets, and the leaders of the movement for independence from Indonesia are urging their supporters to avoid confrontations.

"Within three to four months there have to be some concrete solutions," says Antero Bendita Da Silva, who has emerged as the main student leader.

"If nothing happens, I'm afraid there will be a huge number of demonstrations. Maybe we will occupy the Governor's office and wait until a solution comes about."

Expectations are very high. That needs to be taken into consideration."

In the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, the government of BJ Habibie is again saying that the status of the former Portuguese colony cannot be changed, though a limited form of autonomy has been put on the table for negotiation.

The rumour in Dili, unconfirmed by officials, is that senior pro-independence campaigners are in Jakarta for secret talks. They have little scope for compromise, because popular sentiment in East Timor is running high against the autonomy offer.

"It's degrading," says Mr Da Silva. "We didn't beg for our freedom. You (the Indonesians) can't give us independence. You just get out."

Yet the students are showing restraint. Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo, a Nobel laureate and the spiritual leader of the majority Catholic population, is also telling the people to avoid provocation and stay off the streets.

"We are really looking for a negotiated settlement," says Father Filomeno Jacob. He to last.

BY STEPHEN VINES  
in Dili

believes the way the people have listened to their leaders' calls for a withdrawal from the streets "is a sign of how seriously the people take the instructions of their leadership".

Ten days ago, Jamsheed

Marker, the United Nations special envoy on East Timor, made a four-hour visit to the island for discussions with local Indonesian officials and Timorese leaders. He avoided a longer stay as he feared becoming the focus of pro-independence protests like those that erupted during a European Union delegation visit earlier in the month.

The Marker talks are likely to pave the way for a New York meeting between the foreign ministers of Indonesia and Portugal, the former colonial power, early next month.

Mr Da Silva insists that there can be no compromise on a referendum, which would almost certainly result in an overwhelming vote for independence.

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AP

Soldiers carrying sandbags to strengthen the banks of the Jingjiang River in south China's Hubei province, one of the worst-hit flood areas

# Flood alert as Yangtze wreaks havoc

CHINA'S BADLY flooded central provinces are braced today for a new crest of water travelling down the Yangtze that will inundate parts of the river where levels are already at 44-year record highs. Some 1,200 people have died in this year's floods, and nearly 2 million military and civilian personnel are manning the 3,600km of dykes along the swollen waterway.

The rising waters may force the government to save key industrial and agricultural areas this week by blowing up some of the levees, which would

Tens of thousands of people living in the flood plain around Dongting Lake, in Hunan province, are being evacuated in case officials opt for this last-resort option.

Several dykes have already broken near Dongting Lake and local flood-control authorities said they were "preparing for the worst". Television

footage last night showed a steady procession of people with sandbags still fortifying the embankment of the rain-swollen lake, which would normally drain into the Yangtze.

Disaster relief equipment, including 400 rubber rafts, 800,000 sandbags and 240,000 square metres of sheeting, have been sent to Hunan already, the Xinhua news agency reported.

Rains have pushed 3,600km of mud and stone dykes to breaking-point in the Yangtze basin. Inspectors have found 1,000 weak points along levees in

Hubei, and sandbags have been stacked over a metre high along a 240km section.

Downstream, on Saitang Lake, near Jiujiang, in Jiangxi province, 100m of dykes have crumbled and more may go, despite repair work by thousands of citizens and paramilitary troops.

Water levels are at their highest yet along 290km of the Yangtze, but more rainstorms in the upper reaches of the river mean that the worst may be to come.

The central industrial city of

Wuhan has been extremely badly hit because of extraordinarily heavy downpours which totalled 65cm of rain last week. Should the city's levees along the Yangtze be breached, the result could be disastrous.

Navigation along the river has been stopped both for safety and preventive reasons. Around Dongting Lake, shipping was suspended to prevent any extra stress on flood barriers.

A ban remains in effect at the site of the Three Gorges Dam, near Yichang city, where flood-

waters are channelled through a canal around the side of the construction site.

Some 170,000 ferry passengers have had to be taken off boats and moved to safe ground in recent days. The river at Jiujiang is expected to reach the top of levees in two or three days.

Farther downstream, Jiangsu province has begun evacuating people living on islands in the Yangtze in anticipation of the flood crest.

Flooding has been blamed for 22 deaths around Jiujiang.

# Party puritans pull plug on Chinese rock star

IT WAS supposed to be China's answer to Woodstock, an open-air, all-night rave featuring the country's best-known rock star Cui Jian, and bands such as Cold-Blooded Animal and Overload.

The main problem appeared to be the star attraction, Cui Jian, one of whose songs, "Nothing to My Name", became an anthem for the pro-democracy student demonstrators in June 1989 after the singer gave a concert in Tiananmen Square.

Cui carried on giving big concerts in China until 1992, but Saturday would have been the

first officially sanctioned, large-scale live public performance by the 38-year-old father of Chinese rock for about five years.

The star also has difficulty getting access to the airwaves; only one radio show in China is currently playing music from his latest album, *The Impudent Strength*. He does, however, occasionally play unofficially to a packed, smaller audience at one of Peking's popular bars, the CD Cafe.

It was hoped that the Peking Summer Music Festival would pass off smoothly this year and

then become an annual event.

But the organisers did not

bargain for difficulties with the government. The original venue was Yanzi Lake Park in Huairou, a town under the Peking municipality best-known for hosting the 1995 United Nations World Women's Conference.

"When we started, Huairou county was very interested,"

said the organiser, who preferred not to be quoted by name. "We had permission from the Huairou county cultural bureau for a festival in the

park." The programme offered "natural setting, mountains and forest, horse-back riding and shooting", as well as a DJ playing "rock, reggae, afro, hip hop, and acid jazz", half a dozen rock bands and a rave party from 1am until dawn.

But then the long arm of the Peking culture bureau got involved, and warned Huairou of staging the event. So the organiser switched to Yangtzing Forest Park, just outside Tianjin. On Friday night, however, the Tianjin cultural bureau told the organiser that the

national Ministry of Culture had banned the concert. "It is very hard to put on the concert because the main figure is Cui Jian," the organiser said. A rock concert was held earlier this year in Zhengzhou, in Henan province, but Cui did not perform there. Yet several Peking newspapers have been free to write about the event, and about Cui's new album. One song features this appropriate lyric: "Are you occupied with nothing? Do you need a shock?"

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# Junta holds Suu Kyi in car for days

THE US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, yesterday denounced the military-ruled government of Burma and said the United States would hold it "directly responsible" for the health and welfare of the Burmese Nobel laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi, who was detained en route to a meeting.

"I just wanted to make quite clear how we deplore the government of Burma's refusal to allow members of the National League for Democracy, a legal political party, to travel freely," Ms Albright said.

The Secretary of State was attending an Asian regional summit in the Philippines.

Ms Suu Kyi, 53, the winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, heads Burma's pro-democracy

party, the National League for Democracy. She was stopped by police last Friday while driving to a meeting with NLD members and, as Ms Albright spoke, was preparing to spend her fourth night trapped in her car.

Ms Suu Kyi was stopped 32 miles from the capital while driving to Bassein, 100 miles west of Rangoon.

The police refused to let her proceed and she has refused to return to the capital. She, a colleague and two drivers have already spent three nights in

a week in the car. A government spokesman called the episode a publicity stunt and said Ms Suu Kyi was being helped by Western embassies.

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Aung San Suu Kyi: Held on way to meeting

"The NLD leadership has colluded with some Western embassies in Rangoon," the military government said in a statement.

Oh Gyaw, Burma's Foreign Minister, yesterday insisted that "nothing will happen to her".

The country's military government came to power in 1988 after violently crushing a nationwide democracy uprising. The junta ignored the results of a 1990 election that the democracy league won by a landslide.

Ms Suu Kyi has called on the military to allow the parliament elected in that poll to convene by next month, a request to which the military has not responded.

## CITY 2000

### Oh What a Night!

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The modern city of Antakya, which Syrians still lay claim to as the biblical city of Antioch

Robert Harding

## Turks defiant as Syria covets 'stolen' territory

**THOSE WHO** have their eyes fixed on Turkish territory are suffering from blindness, the Turkish prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, thundered the other day. "Not even a square centimetre of this country will be taken from it."

You might think Mr Yilmaz was talking about the Kurdish demand for an independent state in present-day Turkey – or even Armenia's irredentist claim to the lands from which its people were driven by the Turks in the century's first holocaust. But no, Mr Yilmaz was showing proof of Turkey's fear of Syria.

The story goes back to the eve of the Second World War, when France, in a desperate but equally pathetic attempt to bring Ankara in on the Allied side against Germany in the war, handed the north-western Syrian city of Alexandretta and its surrounding governorate to the Turks.

Preoccupied with the coming catastrophe, Europe gave little thought to the effect on the Arabs of this galling territorial compromise in 1938, just as it cared little about the con-

**BY ROBERT FISK**  
in Beirut

sequences for the Arabs of the foundation of Israel nine years later. But of course the Syrians did not forget.

They have never officially given up their claim to the land of Alexandretta, named Iskenderun by the Turks, nor its ancient Biblical city of Antioch. Every evening on Syrian television, the local weather programme shows a city in the north-west of the country called Alexandretta, inside the frontiers of Syria.

Locally produced maps, printed in association with Oxford University Press, also show Alexandretta, Antioch and the town of Suweidiyah (Antioch) firmly inside Syria, a mere dotted line representing the real border that cuts Syria off from its former possessions.

Almost two decades ago, the then Syrian foreign minister, Abdul-Halim Khaddam (now a vice-president), let it be known that Syria would not forget its "other" lost territory, now the Turkish province of Hatay, once the Israeli-occupied Golan

Heights had been recovered. Mr Yilmaz made his remarks in a ceremony to mark the French handing of Alexandretta to the Turks 59 years ago – France was then the League of Nations mandate power in the Levant – but his anger was caused by more recent events. Turkey is convinced that Syria continues to support the Communist Kurdish Party (PKK) guerrillas, with whom it is fighting a cruel civil war in south-eastern Turkey, burning villages and torturing and executing suspects without any form of trial.

Syria believes Turkey's new

alliance with Israel has allowed Israeli fighter aircraft to fly along Syria's northern border – and to the north-east of Syria, along Turkey's new "security zone" in northern Iraq.

Turkey regards Syria's claim to Alexandretta as mischief-making. From Syria's perspective, it is just one more piece of land which has been stolen from it since 1920. In the aftermath of the 1914–18 war, France separated Lebanon from Syria. In 1939, it gave the Alexandretta to Turkey. Then in 1967, Israel occupied – and subsequently annexed – the Golan Heights. France carved off Lebanon to satisfy its Lebanese Christian Maronite allies. Israel captured Golan in a war. But France's "gift" of north-western Syria to Turkey was handed over to the Turks without the slightest thought for the Syrians, or for the city's indigenous population.

As for Mr Yilmaz, he says Turkey knows that "those neighbours who don't want a strong and prosperous Turkey in the region give their support to separatist organisations", a less than subtle reference to Syria's relations with the Kurds.

From the French, now Syria's principal allies in Europe, there comes no comment. After all, they tried to buy Turkey in 1939 and failed. Turkey did, of course, join the Allied cause against Nazi Germany – but only when Hitler's Reich was in ashes in 1945.



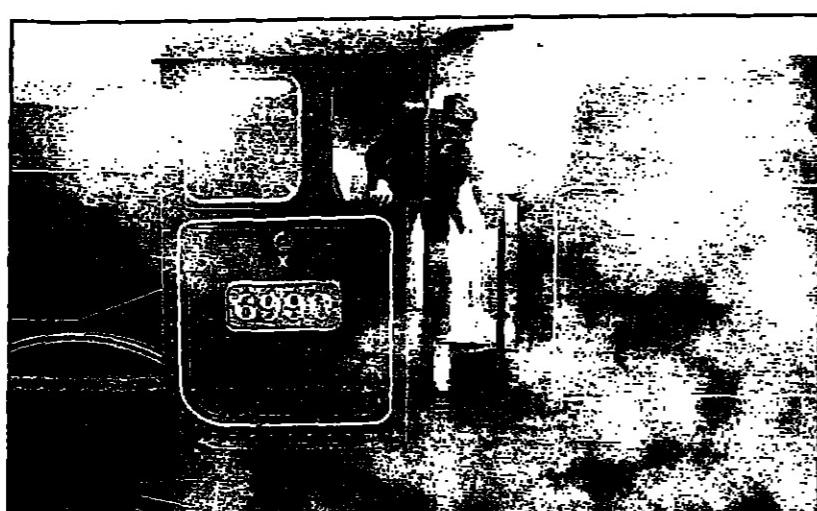
## Iran cracks down on sex pests

**POLICE** in the Iranian capital, Tehran, arrested 200 men on charges of harassing women after they were caught propositioning them from their cars. The city's deputy police commander, Farhad Nazari, was quoted in the *Kayhan* newspaper as saying the campaign was

aimed at fighting "moral crimes". Whistling at and propositioning women from cars is a common sight in parts of Tehran. The moderate *Times* daily criticised the crackdown, saying it was causing traffic jams and annoyance for Tehran residents. But the campaign

may bring some relief for Tehran women, who have been complaining about the increasing number of drivers approaching them. *Times* said police buses stationed at busy crossroads waiting to take away detained drivers were causing traffic jams. – Reuters

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## IN BRIEF

### Lebed takes aim at Kremlin

ALEXANDER LEBED, governor of the Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia, again hinted at his presidential aspirations, saying he would run if life in Russia did not improve. The former general has repeatedly said he would not run unless he solved the problems of the vast Krasnoyarsk region, where he was elected governor in May. Many observers consider the governorship a stepping-stone to presidential elections in 2000.

### Porn on Dutch ministry network

A DUTCH Justice Ministry official has been dismissed for downloading pornography from the Internet and distributing it through the ministry's network. A spokesman said the investigation was not linked to the Zandvoort child-pornography scandal.

### Northern Cyprus seeks currency

THE TURKISH Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash, urged his breakaway enclave to assert its independence by establishing its own currency, which could be a version of the Turkish lira. Northern Cyprus declared its statehood in 1983 but is recognised only by Ankara.

### Angola moves closer to war

ANGOLA is on the brink of renewed war, with government forces and the opposition Unita reinforcing positions and recruiting fighters, diplomats said. The government has deployed 18,000 troops, while Unita is said to have intensified attacks on civilian targets.

### Blaze threatens Mt Olympus

FIREFIGHTERS struggled to control a forest fire scorching the slopes of Mount Olympus, legendary home of the ancient gods. Dozens of other fires also burned through brush and woodlands around Greece in the most devastating season of blazes in decades.

## MILES KINGTON

"There is an extraordinary trial going on in the High Court, which could endanger the entire existence of the Church of England"

— THE TUESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 2 →

## How to survive the fruits of the forest

**IN THE** Children's Park next to Samotechny Lane, a young woman was rooting around under a tree. At first, I thought she had lost her keys or something. But then I realised she was looking for mushrooms.

It's not a good idea, really, in central Moscow, which must have one of the highest concentrations of lead anywhere in the world. Probably she had no means of getting out into the countryside. And Russians are so obsessed with mushrooms that they will hunt for them even in the inner city if they have no alternative.

This summer, there is a superabundance of mushrooms in Russia. Old ladies are standing at metro stations, selling them by the basket.

I did not really register this until Oleg, one of my neighbours, rang to tell me it was a record year. With typical Russian delight in doom-mongering, he added: "It's a bad sign. A glut of mushrooms means famine and war."

It is true, as old people will tell you, that there were a lot of mushrooms in the forests the summer before the Nazis invaded in 1941. But weather could have as much to do with it this year as impending war. Russians often say corrupt police or drunken husbands are as common as "mushrooms after rain".

You could express that the other way round and say that, after rain, mushrooms are as plentiful as politicians' promises. After all, this has been a particularly humid summer, ideal weather for fungi.

Strange as it may seem, in my 10 years in Russia, I have never practised the national sport of mushroom-hunting. I was afraid of picking the wrong variety and poisoning myself, or picking the right fungus but discovering too late that pollution had made it mutate. "Family killed by mutant mushrooms", "volchya yagoda" (wolf berries) that seemed to me to be identical, except the bushes on which they grew were higher.

"Oh it's not just that," said Zina, a geologist knowledgeable about nature in general, suggested we go out into the woods just north of Moscow to look for mushrooms. I thought I should risk it at last.

Russians love and fear the forest in equal measure, much as the English do the sea, and you cannot say

## STREET LIFE

**SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW**

have had the full Russian experience until you have been on a real mushroom safari.

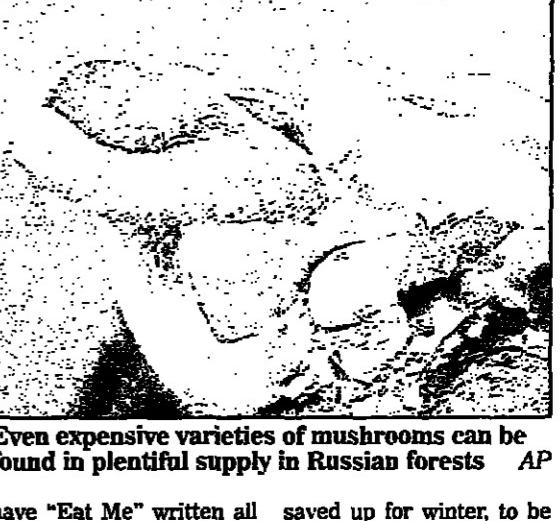
Only a few kilometres outside Moscow, the woods are as dense as the Amazon rainforest and you easily get lost if you do not keep track of the paths you have taken.

The air is thick with mosquitoes and it is advisable to cover your head to protect yourself from "Siberian klesh" (ticks) which, if you are very unlucky, can give you meningitis.

In the mixed birch and pine woods where we rambled, we discovered dozens of trees that had been felled by the June hurricane, their trunks charred by the lightning.

And what struck the eye first were not the shy and retiring mushrooms but glowing berries that seemed to

be found in plentiful supply in Russian forests AP



Even expensive varieties of mushrooms can be found in plentiful supply in Russian forests AP

saved up for winter, to be eaten with potatoes or as a snack accompaniment to vodka. Neither were there any "lisichki" (little foxes), which the French call chanterelles and serve at exorbitant prices in the best restaurants.

The reason was that hordes of poor grannies, knowing mushrooms contain as much protein as meat, had already been through the forest like vacuum cleaners. We bought from them instead at the nearest metro station and had a mushroom feast.

Days later, I am still alive to tell the tale. Oleg had said mushrooms portend a cataclysm and I was neutral about mutants. But so far we remain at peace and have not yet been taken over by aliens.

HELEN WOMACK

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# BUSINESS

## BRIEFING

### Japanese cabinet to be named

THE NEW Japanese cabinet is to be announced today, but it is beginning to seem likely that the key post of finance minister will go to either the former prime minister, Kiichi Miyazawa, or his colleague Koichi Kato. The candidate the markets would like, the reformist Seiroku Kajiyama, is apparently less likely to be chosen. He is in favour of more drastic reform of the banking system and is accordingly unpopular with financial and business leadership - though not with the markets.

Hamish McRae, page 19

### Software boost at Royalblue

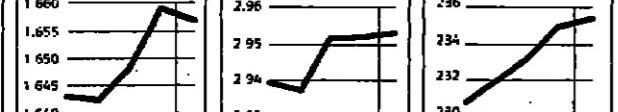
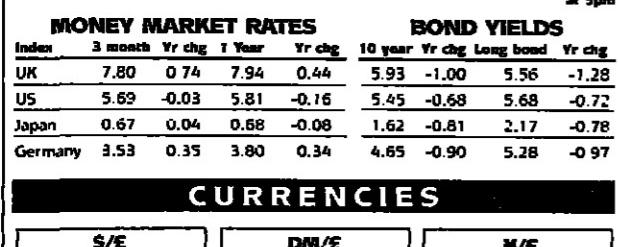
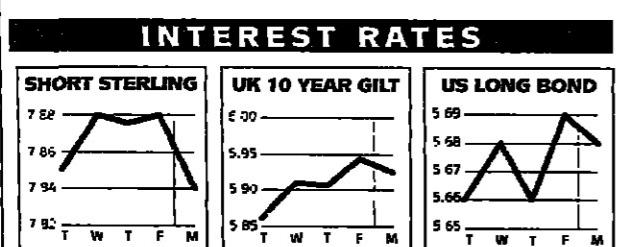
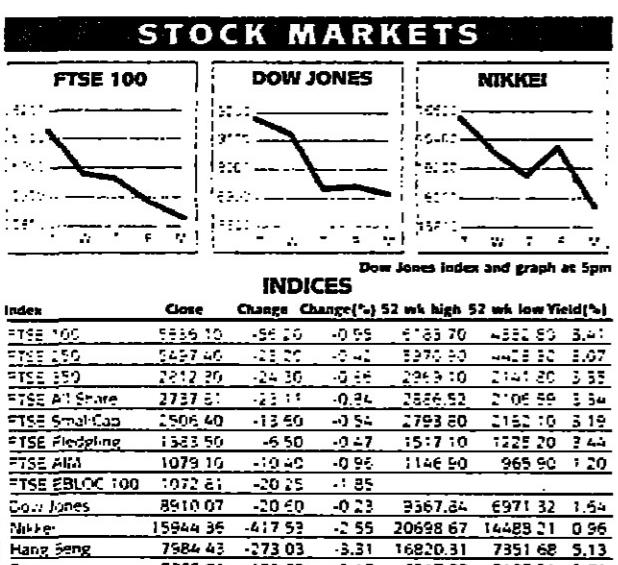
**ROYAL BLUE**  
share price, pence  
380  
360  
340  
320  
300  
280  
260  
240  
220  
200  
180  
160  
140  
120  
100  
80  
60  
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0  
Source: Instinet  
JASON J FMAMJJ

ROYALBLUE, the financial trading and helpdesk software group, expects to benefit from the proposed alliance between the London Stock Exchange and Deutsche Börse, its German rival. John Hamer, the chief executive, said the company had held talks with executives at both developing a common trading platform. Royalblue was a major supplier of software for SETS, the stock exchange's order-driven trading system which was introduced last year. Mr Hamer said a move to a new platform would require most customers to upgrade their systems. *Investment Column, page 21*

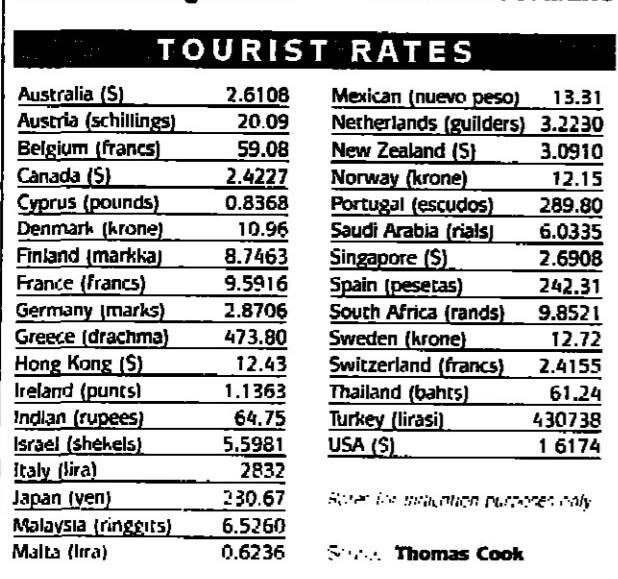
### Alert over insurance brokers

THE TREASURY yesterday announced it was abolishing the body which gives insurance brokers professional status - prompting fears of a deterioration in consumer confidence in the industry. Helen Liddell, economic secretary to the Treasury, said the government would repeal the Insurance Brokers Registration Act, set up by the last Labour government in an effort to raise standards in insurance broking.

The act was widely perceived as ineffectual and the body which registered brokers, the IBRC, will now be abolished. Over 900 brokers who do investment business will now be regulated by the Financial Services Authority.



[www.bloomberg.com/uk](http://www.bloomberg.com/uk) SOURCE: BLOOMBERG



# Telecoms fever as wave of mega-mergers beckons

THE TELECOM industry around the world was in upheaval yesterday as it digested the implications of the \$10bn (£6bn) alliance between British Telecom and AT&T, announced on Sunday, while Wall Street geared up for the possibility of yet another mega-merger between two US telecom groups.

In London, shares in BT jumped 43p to a new all-time high of 868p as investors welcomed the joint venture with AT&T, seeing the tie-up as an ideal solution to the company's lack of presence in the crucial US market. AT&T shares rose 31 cents to \$60.25.

"It's a great deal," said Mark Lambert, telecoms analyst at

BY PETER THAL LARSEN  
in London  
AND DAVID USORNE  
in New York

Merrill Lynch. "BT has enhanced its earnings; it has resolved certain key strategic challenges and it is opening the door to new possibilities."

However, other observers were disappointed that the company had played down hopes of a massive share buy-back. BT is due to receive \$7bn (£4bn) in cash as payment for its stake in MCI, which is merging with WorldCom.

The alliance puts pressure on Unisource, the alliance of European telecom operators that AT&T is abandoning in

favour of linking up with BT Analysts said the venture - which includes Telia in Sweden, Swisscom in Switzerland and KPN in the Netherlands - would have to find a new partner in the US or fall apart.

Meanwhile, in the Far East, Singapore Telecom and KDD (the Japanese long-distance group) were assessing the implications of AT&T's imminent withdrawal from their World Partners alliance.

KDD said it was due to start talking to BT and AT&T about distributing the new venture's services in Japan. However, a spokesman for the company stressed that KDD had not been invited to join the alliance.

On Wall Street, investors turned their attention to reports of a possible mega-merger between Bell Atlantic, the New York-based local phone company, and GTE to create a new powerhouse spanning one-third of US local connections.

A combination of the two companies would once again transform the US telecommunications scene. The new company, which could be valued at \$55bn, would be second only to AT&T in punch and scope in the US telephone industry.

Both companies had been named as potential partners for British Telecom before its alliance with AT&T was unveiled.

Sources cited in the *Wall Street Journal* yesterday said the talks were still ongoing be-

tween the two companies and could yet unravel. Such a merger would inevitably draw close attention of competition regulators in Washington. The negotiations were also reported by *USA Today*.

If the talks are indeed consummated, the deal would represent the first merger of one of the US Baby Bells with a long-distance carrier since deregulation of the US telecoms sector two years ago.

Government regulators may raise objections, however, because under current rules, Bell Atlantic's territory extends down the eastern seaboard from Maine to Washington DC. GTE would control some 62 million local connections, representing about a third of the entire local US market. A merger would set

them up for battle with SBC Communications of Texas which is finalising its recent deal to acquire Ameritech.

"It would be no surprise to me," commented Susan Byrne of Westwood Management in New York yesterday. "Everyone in the industry is going to have to dance pretty quickly. And because of the AT&T-BT alliance everyone is going to have to suit up fast".

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## Revenue may fine 400,000 for late returns

BY ANDREW VERTIY

INLAND REVENUE yesterday confirmed it will make a windfall of £120m in fines from tax-payers who failed to return their self-assessment tax forms on time.

Figures released by the Revenue show it fined 775,000 taxpayers for missing the 31 January deadline for returning tax forms under the new self-assessment regime introduced last year.

The errant taxpayers will pay £100 each, netting the Exchequer £77.5 million. But in spite of the initial fine, well over 400,000 still have to return their forms ahead of the second deadline, 31 July.

Unless there is a last-minute rush, more fines will be sent out, netting a further £40m.

"We anticipate sending out 400,000 more fines for missing deadlines for the second time," a spokeswoman said.

The size of the Revenue's windfall will anger tax agents who have been asked to forgive the Revenue for a series of giant blunders in connection with the self-assessment system.

In the worst example, the Revenue told tens of thousands of people they owed tax when, in fact, the Revenue owed them money.

Others who owed tax were told they were in credit.

The blunder caused the Revenue to apologise to tax agents and reassess its computer systems, which had effectively mistaken the box for tax credits with a nearby box for debts.

The July 31 deadline also applies to payments by account for the tax year of 1997-98.

If these are not paid on time, taxpayers will be hit by a surcharge of 5 per cent of tax owing - as calculated by the Revenue - plus interest on the outstanding amount.

The figure of £120m emerged as the Revenue kicked off a second publicity campaign to raise awareness of self-assessment, this time for the year 1998-99.

However, in what amounts to a defeat for the outgoing President of the Board of Trade, Margaret Beckett, the Government has backed away from granting



Belgo Group saw 20.5 million of shares traded yesterday after announcing it was in talks with Caprice Holdings, owners of Le Caprice and The Ivy restaurants

## No float, says Littlewoods as profits soar

BY NIGEL COPE  
Associate City Editor

LITTLEWOODS, the family controlled retail and football pools empire, said a stock market flotation was still not on the agenda yesterday in spite of record profits, boosted by a strong performance from its home shopping interests.

Commenting on the intentions of the 32 members of the Moores family, which owns 100 per cent of the business, James Ross, Littlewoods chairman, said: "The family has not raised the issue. There is no intention to float."

In addition to returning £205m to the family shareholders in February after the sale of 19 stores to Marks & Spencer as well as its Oxford Circus store, Littlewoods has settled long-running litigation with three former directors. The settlements with Sir Desmond Pitcher, Barry Dale and Prodip Guha, the former chairman, chief executive and deputy chief executive, were not disclosed.

Mr Ross said the strategy

was to continue with the group's five-year plan started three years ago. It remains committed to its high street stores business in spite of failing to find a buyer for the main chain last year, he said. The company is testing new look formats in four of its stores. Two are trading under the Littlewoods name with another two under the name Berketex, which Littlewoods has been using as a brand of clothing.

However, Barry Gibson, chief executive, said it was unlikely that the group would decide to jettison the Littlewoods name on the high street.

He was speaking as Littlewoods unveiled a 30 per cent increase in group trading profits to £123m on flat sales of £2.23bn. Home shopping led the way with a 41 per cent rise in profits to £78m, helped by a good contribution from the Index Extra catalogue. Profits at Littlewoods Stores fell by 4 per cent to £22m. The football pools business continues to be affected by the National Lottery. Profits there fell by 10 per cent to £19.7m.

more than 250 submissions.

In its response the Government said the fundamental system of price control would remain RPI-X, under which annual price rises are kept below the rate of inflation. However, the Government said it would expect the regulators to refine how the RPI-X principle was applied in any "exceptional circumstances".

Regulators will also be urged to take levels of consumer service and satisfaction into account when setting new price caps.

But Mrs Beckett said that, on pay, the Government's message was clear: "It is not the Government's job to set the pay of utility company executives. However, the Government does believe there should be a clearer link between the prices utilities can charge their customers and the service standards they achieve." This should in turn be linked to remuneration levels.

*Outlook*, page 17

## 'Name and shame' utilities pay plan

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

PRIVATISED UTILITIES are to be forced to spell out how boardroom pay awards are linked to customer performance standards under a "name and shame" scheme unveiled yesterday by the Government.

The size of the Revenue's windfall will anger tax agents who have been asked to forgive the Revenue for a series of giant blunders in connection with the self-assessment system.

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# Memo to Mandy: Keep your coat on

A MEMO to Peter Mandelson, the new President of the Board of Trade, from Michael Scholar, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry:

"Dear Peter, Welcome to your first Ministry. Who's a clever boy then, and still so young! Don't take this personally, but you're not expected to last. No one ever does at the DTI. The last lot got through 13 secretaries of state in 18 years. The way Mr Blair has started, anyone would think he is out to beat the record."

Some departments make a minister's career. Others are political graveyards. We fit into the latter category around here at Victoria Street.

But let's not get too maudlin so soon. May I say that your portrait will make a splendid addition to the exhibition of past Presidents that we have hanging on the eighth floor. I'm sure you've already glanced along the gallery. Some cokers there alright, eh?

John Biffen. Semi-detached. I think it was, and then, oh dear, completely detached. Little Leon Brittan. A clever man but no good with helicopters (or press secretaries for that matter). Lord Young



## OUTLOOK

of Graham. "He brings me solutions," trilled Mrs T, but all he ever brought us was that stupid monicker The Department For Enterprise. Then there was Cecil. He lasted just five months, which is a record even for us (I recall it was a family matter that intruded). And then there was Peter Lilley. A charisma bypass maybe but at least he invented the Lilley Doctrine. Damn me, though, if I can remember what it was.

Even Keith, Norman and the sadly departed Nick didn't last that long. You see the real problem is that there isn't really much to do around here. Take Hezza. He stuck it out for three years (gold watch

territory I would say). And yet what is he remembered for? Failing to sell the Post Office, that's what.

Do you get on with your predecessor, Margaret? Somehow I doubt it. (I gather incidentally, that they are calling her new job a "promotion". What? Minister for the Millennium Bug and keeping the smelly socks in order? Anyway, what will she do after 1 Jan, 2000?

Personally I rather liked Margaret although she seemed to get up the noses of those American electricity folk and a few business types nearer home. But it was all pretty harmless stuff. What was she always banging on about? Ah yes, that's it. The Three Pillars - Strong Markets, Modern Companies, Enterprising Nation. Well, we can all drink to that.

Perhaps, if I may make so bold, you have something similar in mind? The Three Domes? I expect you've already leafed through the departmental budget. Don't be taken in by that £600m increase in the headline number. It's true, the science budget is going up but I imaging bunsen burners interest you about as much as fish suppers

in Hartlepool on a Friday night. No, most of the time you will be doing out compensation to ex-miners' with emphysema or paying for the closure of Dounreay.

One final word of, how can I put it, advice. As our workload is greatly shrunk these days (nothing left to run, you see) we don't encourage early risers. Mr Griffiths will tell you that, on his way out of the door. Good luck!!!

BRITAIN. Have these people got

nothing better to do than spend their lives responding to a Green Paper on utility regulation?

Mrs Beckett's desire to embed existing price controls with measures that would allow the regulators to tax "excess profits" always smacked of a government that did not believe, or understand, how free markets work. Remove the incentive to deliver better service and the result is worse service.

The utilities are still cavilling over how the regulators might choose to interpret their powers to claw back windfall gains in "exceptional circumstances".

BUT ON THE SUBJECT of boardroom pay - another fat target for Labour - the worst they will have to contend with is public humiliation. The name of the game these days is "name and shame". And so, just like the pension funds-sellers, those utility bosses who pay themselves more than their improved performance warrants will find themselves pilloried in public. Always supposing, of course, you can get your hands on a set of the regulated accounts!

FOR A BREED that has shown itself to have the thickest of hides and

now has the added protection in many cases of overseas ownership, this surely holds no perils. Hitting the utilities where it hurts, in their profit margins, will depend therefore on seizing the moment when it arises. Mr Mandelson has one such opportunity in his sights now that Enron is buying Wessex Water. He should make sure customers get their fair share of the spoils.

IT MUST BE GOOD NEWS that BT has found a new transatlantic partner after the disappointment of MCI. That said, there will be no exchange of equity to cement this relationship and 50:50 joint ventures can have a habit of falling apart when no-one is in control. Moreover BT and AT&T will have to wait 12 months to see how much the regulators nibble away before the deal is acceptable.

ON THE PLUS SIDE, BT and AT&T may escape the kind of culture clash that would have made a full-blown merger with MCI a challenging business to run. If there are two telecoms operators in the world that share common traits, it is BT and AT&T. Both are former bureaucratic monopolies that are adjusting to life in a competitive world. AT&T for all its failings, also has the kind of US presence that BT lacks and needs.

LOOKED AT ANOTHER WAY, OF COURSE, this could be precisely the wrong reason for getting together. Try as you might, it is difficult to see the as yet unnamed joint venture being as fleet of foot as a WorldCom or a Qwest. Nor will the competition stand still while BT&AT&T conclude their elephant mating ritual.

## IN BRIEF

### Tarmac wins £100m contract

TARMAC, the construction group, has won a £100m contract to build a power station in Hungary.

Tarmac said TBV Power, its specialist power business, and its partner Foster Wheeler of Finland, will build a 150-megawatt coal-fired power station for AES Electric, part of the AES Corporation of the US. Work on the site, which is about 150 kilometres north of Budapest, will start in spring 1999 and is due to be completed in 2001.

### Receiving end

THE DOWNTURN trend in receiverships could be coming to an end as the economy slows down, according to KPMG's quarterly review of the number of companies going under.

Only the South and the Midlands, during the first half of 1998, recorded receiverships at similar levels to those in the last six months of 1997. Scotland and the North East saw receiverships fall by 39 per cent and 22 per cent respectively. However, the North-west saw an increase of 26 per cent. The manufacturing sectors continued to provide the largest number of business failures, while in retail there was a reduction in the number of receiverships.

### Restaurant move

HARVEY NICHOLS yesterday confirmed that it would open its second restaurant in London towards the middle of next year. The fashion retailer also revealed that sales in the first 16 weeks of the financial year were up 2.9 per cent year-on-year. In a statement at its annual meeting, the group said it had taken a lease on an 8,000 square foot property in Leadenhall Street, in the City, which it will convert into a restaurant and bar. It already runs a restaurant at London's Oxo tower.

### Railtrack slides

SHARES IN Railtrack slid 16 per cent, shedding 77p to end at 1,406p, ahead of the rail consultation document due today. Recent reports have suggested that John Swift, the rail regulator, is concerned that the current pricing formula of RPI minus 2 per cent was based on too generous a return of capital. Reports also suggest he will propose revising the value of Railtrack's asset base and linking access charges to passenger volumes rather than trains. The National Audit Office is also reported to have postponed the publication of its report into Railtrack's flotation, which is expected to be critical, until the autumn.

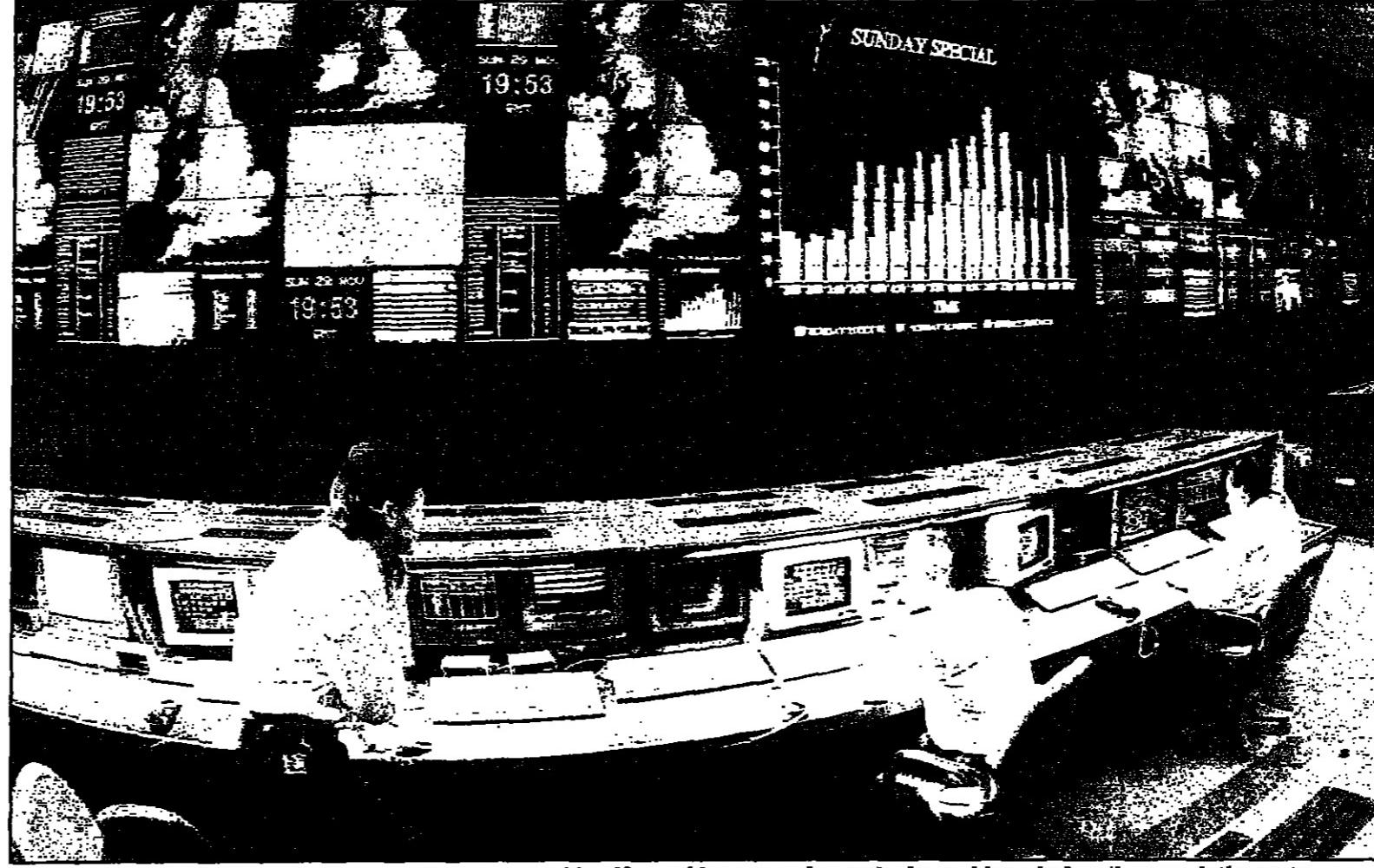
### FSA opens up

THE CITY watchdog, the Financial Services Authority, has set out how it plans to involve consumers and practitioners in its work. The FSA intends to set up consumer panels, a practitioner forum and local town meetings.

**News Analysis: Customers join investors in backing international link-up with AT&T**

## Thumbs up for BT's alliance

BY PETER THAL LARSEN



BT's £4m Worldwide Network Management Centre can identify troublespots and remedy the problems before they reach the customer

communications and the internet is set this year to overtake voice traffic for the first time.

The growth of the internet has been particularly explosive. Experts now reckon that the number of emails sent every day is the same as the total number of emails sent in the whole of 1998.

This growth is set to continue. Unveiling their alliance on Sunday, BT and AT&T published forecasts which showed that the entire international telecoms market, worth \$40bn a year today, is likely to increase fivefold to \$200bn by the year 2007 (see table).

Over that period, multinational companies are expected to boost their annual telecom spending from \$26bn to \$116bn.

That growth is behind BT and AT&T's decision to build a network based on internet protocol standards. Rather than simply use telephone wires for calls, large corporations are increasingly using them to run private cross-border computer networks, email and intranet systems, and multimedia services such as videoconferencing.

Indeed, data traffic generated by faxes, corporate data

not have the world to themselves. WorldCom, the upstart US group which last year trumped BT's bid for MCI, is rapidly constructing a global network. Just last week, the company unveiled a European long-distance network linking London, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and Frankfurt.

In order to ensure it can offer a comprehensive service, WorldCom eschews alliances with other operators in favour of owning all its own equipment and fibre-optic cable.

Cable & Wireless, Britain's other major telecoms player, is planning to launch similar services following its acquisition of

MCI's internet assets for \$1.75bn earlier this month.

The question, however, is how profitable these customers will be. Until now, none of the alliances aimed at large multinational customers have made any money. Even Concert, the joint venture between BT and MCI which has been among the most successful in winning new business, is only set to break even this year despite boasting 4,000 customers.

Robin Bosworth, a partner at Schema, the telecommunications consultancy, says many companies have underestimated how expensive supplying international services could

be. "It's all in the people and the processes and the tools, not just in the networks," he says.

With a large cost base - the BT/AT&T joint venture will have 5,000 employees - scale becomes all-important. By directing all their international traffic over their combined network, the two companies will benefit from huge economies of scale. Their offer to open the network up to other suppliers as a "carrier's carrier" will bring unit costs down further.

As a result, BT and AT&T reckon their joint venture will make operating profits of \$1bn on revenues of \$100bn in 2001, its first full year of operation.

Moreover, experts reckon that the pressure to reduce prices is now easing. "Telecom services are all so cheap but so mission critical that price isn't the determining factor any more - it's more about quality of service," says John McMonigall, a director specialising in telecom investments at Apar, the venture capital group.

All of which sounds promising in theory. In reality, however, BT and AT&T have several important hurdles to jump. First, they have to get the joint venture past demanding regulators in the US and Europe. Then they have to integrate their network management and other computer systems.

This is made all the more complicated by the fact that AT&T's international operations are currently heavily integrated with those of Unisource. While telecom managers may look forward to the day when they can hand over their entire telecom operation to a single supplier, that day - while perhaps brought a little nearer by BT and AT&T's alliance - is still a couple of years away.

Gazprom itself, which is waiting to make new foreign investments until markets improve, said it would not insist the government offer the state to Royal Dutch/Shell and Italian ENI, with which it has strategic agreements.

"We have our own schemes with these companies, so let the government itself look for a strategic investor," said Gazprom deputy chairman Pyotr Rodionov.

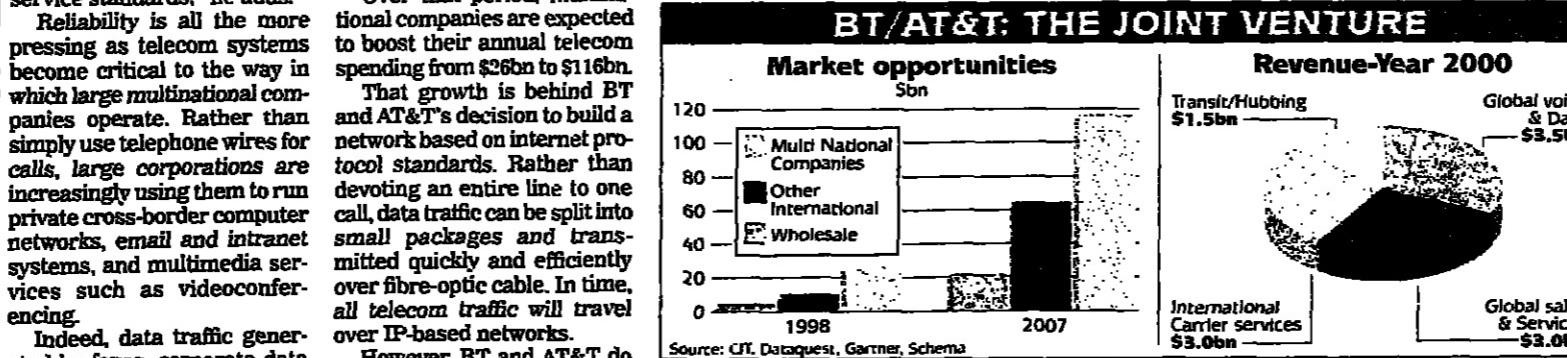
Gazprom had recommended that the government sell a 5 per cent stake as a whole at a cash auction, or divide it into two lots and sell to strategic investors.

"We are happy that the government's stake in Gazprom is decreasing," he said, but the sale should be made with care. "We don't want the shares to be sold carelessly and without good return."

Gazprom was valued at about \$50bn before Russian markets headed into a tailspin last October. Shell and ENI had already agreed to invest \$1 bn each in shares owned by a Gazprom affiliate.

Gazprom's spokesman Gennady Yezhov said that Gazprom had had preliminary talks with its strategic partners, which had expressed interest in acquiring Gazprom's shares.

However, Moscow will not be in a hurry to sell the shares as it has received a loan from the International Monetary Fund.



## Showdown looms as Stylo warns on profits

BY NIGEL COPE  
Associate City Editor

cent stake and may be interested in building a larger holding.

Stylo shares lost 22 per cent of their value to close at 40.5p after the company said trading in June had been affected by poor weather and the disruption caused by the conversion of the Hush Puppy stores to its

Barratts and Instep formats. It has also been badly hit by the fall-out from Sears' disposal of its British Shoe Corporation business.

This caused a wave of discounting which damaged Stylo's margins, the company said. Consequently first half results will be "much worse" than last year's £2.5m deficit. It said the full-year dividend would be "reviewed" as it would affect

other options such as it two-tier voting structure, the board structure and the possible disposal of non-core assets.

Stylo is now expected barely to break even in the full year though the company says it is unlikely that it will breach its banking covenants.

Michael Ziff, the chief executive whose family controls Stylo, dismissed talk that the family might seek to take Stylo

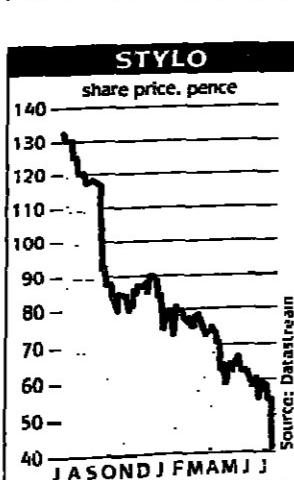
private. "It is not a route we want to go down. We want to battle it out and make this company a success as a pic."

Mr Ziff said he welcomed the arrival of Guinness Peat Group on Stylo's shareholder register even though it has a history of taking on the management in under-performing, often family controlled companies such as Young & Co, the London Brewer. "We have not spoken to

them but we welcome them as we do all shareholders."

He said the company had been reviewing its voting structure since the beginning of the year. Other changes could include the sale of some shops and the sale and lease-back of others.

Stylo has been under pressure since 1996 when it acquired the Hush Puppy stores from Sears. It also acquired the Saxone brand.





# HK Telecom lays off 270 to cut costs

HONGKONG Telecommunications, the territory's leading phone operator, yesterday announced swinging job cuts in an effort to fight off increasing competition in its domestic telecoms market.

The company, in which the UK group Cable & Wireless has a majority stake, said it had laid off 270 management staff under a "reshaping exercise" aimed at cutting costs and increase productivity.

In a brief statement, HK Telecom said the move was necessary "in light of the increasingly competitive market environment and ahead of further liberalisation in the telecommunications market next year."

The company, which employs more than 14,000 people, is set to lose its international

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

**monopoly** from next year. Under a deal with the Chinese-backed Hong Kong government announced in January, rival operators will be able to lease international lines from HK Telecom. Facilities-based competition, including international direct dial services, will start from 2000.

Analysts have pointed out repeatedly that the company urgently needs to cut costs and increase productivity if it is to compete with its international rivals.

"It absolutely needs to look at how to cut costs, especially since it is facing a downturn in operations which could weigh on its profits by HK\$500m (£39m) in 1998-99 and HK\$1bn in 1999-2000," said Stanley

Tang, an analyst with Tai Fook Securities.

The 270 sacked staff, mainly network and technical operation managers, are set to receive a total HK\$100m (£7.8m) redundancy package, which is expected to be paid through the cost-savings arising from the lay-offs.

The overall implications for this year should be very minimal with the redundancy payment offsetting the cost savings. Next year there should be some very marginal cost savings," according to Niq Lai, an analyst with Credit Suisse First Boston.

Meanwhile, the company announced that its senior management team would take wage cuts of 8-10 per cent from August. Experts said the move was a clear attempt by the



Sir Reo Stakis, chairman of Stakis, at one of his group's roulette wheels. Casino business was up 13 per cent and helped Stakis to achieve improved trading for the third quarter in a row. The shares climbed to 114.5p yesterday as hotel room occupancy and Livingwell health clubs added to the surge. Photo Press Dundee

## Poor pension results blamed on the DSS

BY ANDREW VERITY

LONDON & MANCHESTER has become the second life insurer in a month to attack computer failures at the DSS which have had a negative impact on its business results this year.

The DSS has experienced repeated problems with NIR\$2, the giant computer system introduced over the last year to administer national insurance.

David Hubbard, chairman of L&M, said the problem had an effect on sales of pension policies, a key part of the company's business.

His comments follow similar criticism from Les Owen, chief executive of Axa Sun Life, one of the UK's biggest life offices, when he announced results for the first half of the year. Mr Owen said government delays had affected results.

Personal and groups get national insurance rebates in ex-

change for pledging to replace the benefits provided by Serps, the state-run second pension scheme. The rebates, amounting to billions of pounds every year, are meant to be paid in every month.

But teething troubles caused by the introduction of NIR\$2 are likely to delay the payment of the rebates by months. The DSS has so far refused to apologise for the problem.

The single premium results for the group were impacted by delays in receipt of contracting out rebate payments from the DSS, Mr Hubbard said.

London & Manchester posted a leap of 25 per cent in sales yesterday despite the computer trouble. Sales were fuelled by growth in employer-sponsored pension schemes.

## Deutsche Bank results disappoint

DEUTSCHE BANK'S first-half profit rose a less-than-expected 63 per cent as higher trading and commission earnings at its investment banking unit were offset by lower interest income.

Europe's second-largest bank said net income rose to DM2.43bn (£830m) from DM1.49bn a year earlier. Most of the gain came from a special DM20-per-share dividend from car-maker Daimler-Benz.

Operating profit, which excludes the dividend, rose 7 per cent to DM3.06bn.

"The capital markets have been very strong, so these results are a little disappointing," said Neil Crowley, an analyst at Goldman Sachs, who has a "market outperform" rating on the shares. "I would expect other banks to do better."

Rolf Breuer, chief executive, said the bank was "keen to expand in the US and Asia using a build-and-buy strategy". A US purchase would help fill a vacuum created earlier this month when Credit Suisse First Boston hired 130 Deutsche executives involved in advising the technology industry in one of the largest raids on a rival securities firm.

Deutsche said its global markets division, which is part of investment banking, and was run by Edson Mitchell, was one of the best-performing units.

Deutsche Bank shares fell 4.7 per cent to DM146.3, a two-week low, as the German benchmark DAX 30 index fell 3 per cent.

## Housing downturn worsens

PROSPECTS FOR the construction industry have deteriorated in recent months, with construction growth hit by higher interest rates and the poorer economic outlook, according to the latest forecasts by the National Council of Building Material Producers.

The BMP said its downgraded forecasts confirm recent industry surveys which have found a marked slowing in key construction markets, like housing, since January.

The BMP forecast that industrial construction will fall 5

per cent next year as the manufacturing recession deepens and envisages lower private housing starts as higher interest rates dampen confidence.

However, there will be an increase in work on social housing, school and hospital projects through greater public sector investment.

BMP's forecast panel chairman Charles Novotny said: "The private sector contribution to construction growth over the next three years will also 'slow sharply' next year in response to the present downturn."

## Why Japan should not be taking the US advice



HAMISH MCRAE

Cut taxes and raise spending is the message the Americans want; it is the wrong policy

HOW RADICAL is the reshuffle? No, not our little one, which on the broad scale of global events barely comes up on the radar screen; the one that really matters, in Japan.

The new Japanese cabinet will be announced on Thursday, but ahead of this news it is beginning to seem likely that the key post of finance minister will go to a consolidator rather than a radical. That at least was the judgement of the markets yesterday, as manifest by the sharp fall in share prices in Tokyo.

There are few political processes more opaque than the power-shuffling within Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, but it seems likely that the choice will be made on factional grounds, with either Kiichi Miyazawa (the former Prime Minister) or his colleague Koichi Kato getting the job.

Apparently Mr Miyazawa has to be offered the job and turn it down so that it can then be offered to Mr Kato, who is from the same faction of the LDP. The candidate the markets would like, the reformist Seiroku Kajiyama, is apparently less likely to be chosen. He is in favour of more drastic reform of the banking system and is accordingly unpopular with financial and business leadership - though not with the markets.

What does all this mean for the rest of us? There is an immediate issue and a slightly longer-standing one.

The immediate issue is the success or otherwise of the banking reform plan. The Ministry of Finance itself is apparently quite confident that it will at last be able to restore faith in the banking system, and officials will privately indicate that several large banks are likely to be formally rescued.

The question is whether the system will be patched or reformed, with the balance of probability on the former. Because things are never quite what they seem in Japan, we will have to wait, probably until the autumn, before we

sharp fall in imports and the widening trade surplus. But an outflow of capital is a problem if those savings are needed to finance a widening budget deficit. Up to now Japan has had no difficulty in financing its public debt. Long-term interest rates have been falling, giving holders of debt capital appreciation and therefore buttressing their willingness to buy yet more debt.

But at some stage debt reaches a point where it adds to financial market uncertainty. Japan is enormously in hock, as the graph shows. Most economists look at the size of net public-sector debt when comparing countries; that is more or less the Maastricht way of looking at things, with its 60 per cent of gross domestic product ratio now accepted as the prudent ceiling.

On this conventional measure Japan's public sector debt is 90 per cent of GDP high but not utterly dreadful. (We are around 55 per cent.) Within Europe, Italy and Belgium have the highest public sector debt to GDP rates, at around 120 per cent.

If, however, you add private sector debt to public sector debt, a rather different picture emerges. I am grateful to Barclays Capital for the graph here, which shows that total debt in Japan eclipses both Italy and the US. Total debt is nearly 300 per cent of GDP.

True this is gross debt - there are some offsets. But it

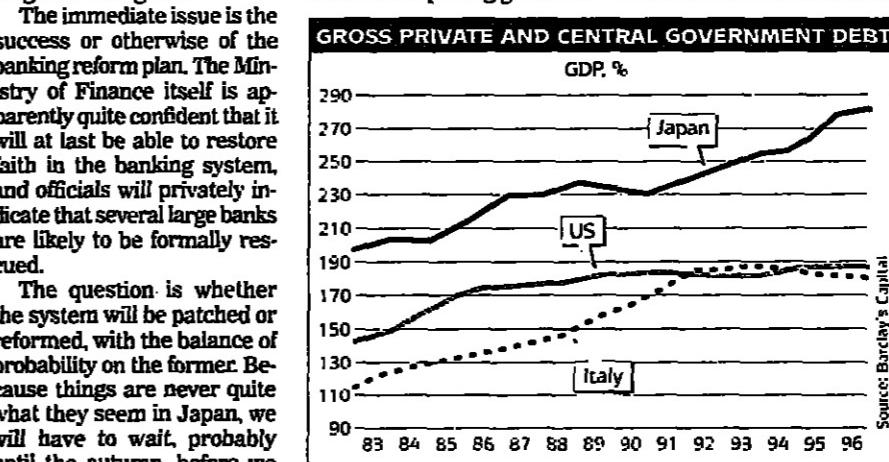
means that the Japanese economy is extraordinarily sensitive to any rise in interest rates. You might say well, unless something dreadful happens there isn't going to be a rise in Japanese interest rates. That may turn out to be true, but even if it does, it might only be true for money interest rates. Real interest rates are obviously increased by deflation; if prices fall the real debt burden climbs in just the same way as if nominal interest rates rose.

At any rate it seems odd that the Americans should be urging Japan to add yet further to its debt burden, for doing so might have the perverse effect of pushing up Japanese interest rates, which is precisely the opposite of what the country needs. Instead the thing to look for will be the willingness of Japan to monetise its debt - just get the Bank of Japan to print the money if necessary - to try to create a little inflation and thereby reduce the real debt burden that way.

This course of action carries dangers, for it is quite difficult to manage the deliberate creation of inflation. You don't know whether it will work; you don't know what will happen to the currency; there is always a danger of perverse effects on confidence from such a course of action. But put at its lowest, a very loose monetary policy is clearly another necessary but insufficient condition for Japanese recovery.

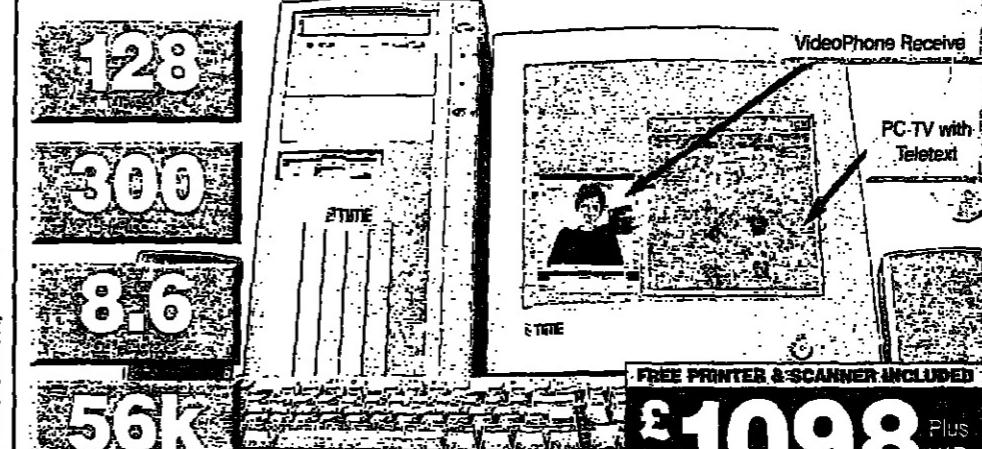
There is a third necessary but insufficient condition for recovery: radical deregulation, of which more at some other time.

Meanwhile, will the cabinet that emerges on Thursday be likely to generate a climate where radicalism can flourish? The omens look unpromising, but what is most interesting of all is the way in which the possibility of radical reform has pushed up the scale of attention in the media and in politics. At least there is now some radical talk, if not yet radical action. That is progress of a sort, even if not much of it is evident on Thursday.



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# BT rings up big gain as Footsie fades

**BT FOUGHT** a valiant battle to prop up Footsie yesterday, riding high on the wave of excitement generated by its long-awaited transatlantic deal with its US rival AT&T. But the flurry of buy notes and target price upgrades only managed to keep the blue-chip index in positive territory till lunchtime.

By then, the BT story had run out of steam and Footsie succumbed to another sluggish start from Wall Street, hounded once more by Asian worries and a general mid-summer apathy to close 56.2 lower at 5836.1, within a whisker of its intra-day low.

The telecoms giant had a 5.21 per cent gain to 883p and a couple of £10 target prices from Morgan Grenfell and Panmure Gordon to show for its efforts. It was also the most demanded blue chip stock by a mile with more than 32 million shares traded.

BT's gutsy performance in the face of adversity was seen as a ringing endorsement of other telecom stocks, with Orange putting on 18.5p to close at 685.5p.

Bass had a trothy day, closing 19p

## MARKET REPORT



FRANCESCO GUERRERA

higher at 1,034 as the market greeted with enthusiasm a report that the brewer could sell its brewing machines unit to Schroder Ventures and Panmure Gordon provided a top-up with a buy note. BAA, the airport operator was also in good shape, rising 12p higher at 672p as good first quarter results and an increase in passengers combined with an ABN Amro buy note to lift sentiment.

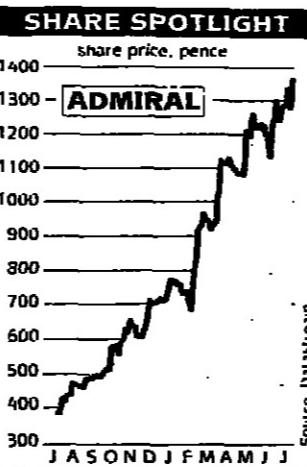
BG rounded up a good day for privatised utilities, putting on 12p to 396p. The market liked yesterday

day's decision by the DTI to merge the electricity and gas regulators, although it remains to be seen whether the new DTI boss, spinmaster Peter Mandelson, will like the idea as much as his predecessor Margaret Beckett.

In the post-lunch blues the bears took charge and mauled Rank after whispers that Thursday's results will be poor and that the chief executive, Andrew Teare, will struggle to retain his job. The pub and bingo operator closed at the top of the Footsie fallers' chart, shedding almost 7 per cent to 280p. Glaxo Wellcome had the same sickly pre-results look and lost 81p to 1,700p. Dealers are scared that the expiry of patents for a couple of its star drugs could hamper growth and are awaiting Thursday's results with apprehension.

Railtrack jumped on the losers' bandwagon, dropping 77p to 1,406p as fears mounted that a regulatory squeeze to be announced today could harm profits.

Unlike Footsie, which had a seesaw performance, the second-liners headed southwards from the word go. In the end, the mid cap closed



23.2 lower at 5,974.1, its lowest of the day, just like the small cap, which lost 13.6 to 2506.4.

Building materials producers hit a brick wall, on fears that the Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott will halve the number of road-building schemes when he concludes his year-long review this week. A leading forecaster's prediction of a turnaround in con-

struction was also a worry. Aggregate Industries lost 8 per cent to 57.75p, Bryant Group lost 6p to 94p, Tarmac was down 5.8 per cent to 96p, Hanson shed 17p to 330p, Rugby Group was down 4.7 per cent to 55.5p and Marley shed 5p to 92p.

But the top spot in the FTSE 250 fallers' table belonged to JJB Sports, which lost more than 9 per cent to 45.75 amid rumours of a stock overhang following its rights issue to finance the takeover of rival Sports Division, Torotrak, which in turn closed at 23.5p, down from the 300p offer.

Admiral, the highly regarded IT company, bucked the trend and soared 75p to an all-time high of 1,367p on optimism about today's results while resurfacing bid speculation helped Vaux, the hotels and pub group, to an 18p rise to 350p. London & Manchester, the insurer, rose 13.5p after a 25 per cent increase in new business prompted a couple of buy notes.

Therapeutic Antibodies, the biotech minnow whose main product is an antidote to rattlesnake venom, suffered when uncontrolled rumours of funding problems caused a bout of selling. The market-makers' reassurances that it had simply marked the shares down to find a "new support level" did little to dispel the fears and the shares closed a poisonous 30.6 per cent lower at 80p.

Shoe shop chain Stylo's story was more straightforward as a profit warning sent the shares tumbling 22.1 per cent to 40.5p.

Middlesex Holdings, a trading outfit chaired by the former Foreign Secretary Lord Owen, shot up 18.75 per cent to 4.75p, as a Russian steel producer in which it has a controlling stake bought part of a giant iron mine.

Cairn Energy, the oil exploration company, rose 4p to 256.5 after winning permission to drill in Bangladesh in partnership with Shell. Tullow Oil also benefited from the Bangladeshi effect and firmed 19.5p to 133p.

DIAGEO, the vodka-to-burgers giant formed from last year's merger of Guinness and Grand Met, lost 4.5p to 726p after a unappetising note from Salomon Smith Barney. Analyst Adam Spielman started coverage with a warning that the shares are overbought. He believes that in the next couple of years, profits at Guinness, Burger King and Pillsbury will be hit by the strong pound and tough markets. Although merger savings and a spirited performance in drinks businesses should prop up group earnings, Mr Spielman rates Diageo an "underperform", with a 12-month share price target of not more than 705p.

**BOOTH INDUSTRIES**, the elevator-maker, got a lift to 54.5p, after the \$3.1m cash and shares acquisition of CHB Holdings, an engineering outfit. The purchase will increase Booth's turnover fourfold to £20m and more than double its profits to £1m.

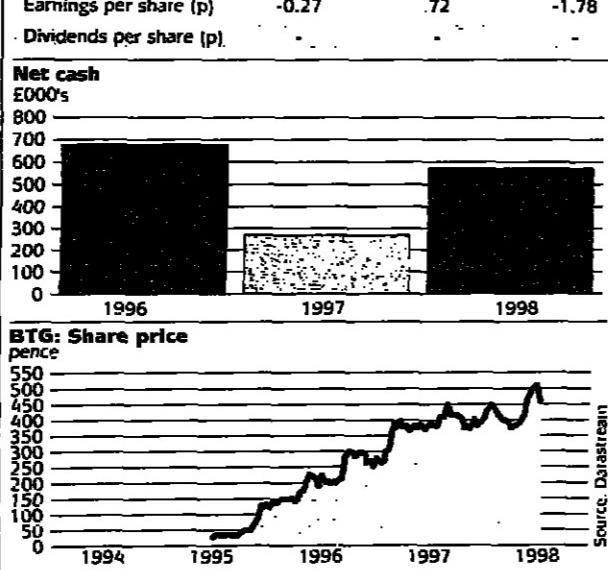
## Torotrak is a punt on the 21st century

### INVESTMENT

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN

#### TOROTRAK: AT A GLANCE

	Market value: £343m, share price: 299.5p		
Trading record	1996	1997	1998
Turnover (£m)	1.70	3.30	1.70
Operating profit (£m)	-0.23	.73	-1.72
Earnings per share (p)	-0.27	.72	-1.78
Dividends per share (p)			



#### Royalblue reaps rewards in IT

FEW COMPANIES have timed their flotation better than Royalblue. The financial and helpdesk software group joined the market as investors were beginning to wake up to growth in the IT industry. And as a supplier of software for SETS, the Stock Exchange's new trading system which went live last autumn, Royalblue enjoyed an immediate boost to its revenues. Floated at 170p a year ago, the shares have more than doubled in value.

It's not hard to see why. In the six months to June, profits jumped 50 per cent to £1.8m, excluding one-off flotation costs, on a similar rise in turnover.

Fears that Royalblue's growth might slow after the one-off boost from SETS look misplaced. The company has broken into the US market with a big order for Nasdaq trading

software from NationsBank. The Stock Exchange's mooted alliance with Deutsche Börse is also good news, since any move towards a common trading platform would prompt banks to upgrade their software.

But Royalblue is not simply dependent on its trading software. Products for customer helpdesks and call centres account for almost half its turnover and with revenues rising 69 per cent in the half year the helpdesk segment is the fastest-growing part of Royalblue.

Analysts were sufficiently reassured by yesterday's figures to bump up their full-year profit forecasts to £4.2m. That puts the shares, which rose 7.5 to 375p yesterday, on a forward multiple of 47. Royalblue's growth prospects just about justify the healthy rating. But given that just 35 per cent of its revenues recur from one year to another, orders could dry up if the stock market takes a dive. The shares are high enough.

#### Brewin thrives in private niche

PRIVATE CLIENT stockbrokers tend to prosper when stock markets are buoyant but flag when they are stagnant. So far, Brewin Dolphin has only prospered. Since floating in 1994, Brewin has built itself up by a series of acquisitions to become Britain's biggest independent private client stockbroker. Now it almost looks like a fully fledged stock broker.

The private client business fills a niche in the money management market for wealthy individuals wanting a personalised service. Money is invested in a fund with a fixed mandate – say for growth, value or momentum.

This niche sector has thrived in recent years. Increasing numbers of high earners who have already bought a house, got a pension and saved for school fees now want to play the markets.

Following the acquisition of Wise Speke, the rival private client broker, for £24m in June Brewin now has 22 offices across the country and £1bn under management.

Brewin yesterday declared record first-half profits of £6.2m up 52 per cent. The figures, which were ahead of expectations, are mostly down to the buoyant market. This may put some nervous investors off: earnings in the form of commissions and fees, are geared to the stock market and could suffer from a correction.

But the business is more stable than other fund managers. Private client cash is less fickle than institutional money so profits depend on the volume of transactions as well as the level of the market.

HSBC, the broker, forecasts another big boost in earnings in the year to September, giving earnings per share of 21.7p. At 425.5p, up 2.5p yesterday, the shares are on a forward p/e ratio of just over 20. They deserve their premium rating.

## IN BRIEF

### Allied to hold back results

ALLIED CARPETS would not release its annual results today as expected, market sources said yesterday. Instead, these sources said Allied is expected to issue a statement giving more details of the reason for the delay. Allied's shares were suspended on 13 July pending the result of an inquiry into compliance with its internal policy for recognition of sales.

### Autotote deal

ALPHAMERIC, the information technology group specialising in display and communication systems, said it has been appointed the exclusive distributor of Autotote Corp's newly developed Extrema wagering terminals in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Autotote is one of the world's leading suppliers of wagering technology providing solutions throughout America, Europe and the Far East. Alphameric shares closed up 1.5p to 50.5p.

### Hire purchase

HEWDEN-STUART, the crane hire group, yesterday said it had acquired P&I Hire Centres for £1.55m, funded from cash flow.

P&I Hire Centres had turnover of £2.7m in the year to March 31, 1998.

Hewden-Stuart said it will incorporate the tool hire company's depots into its network.

### Bodycote buy

METALS GROUP Bodycote International has announced that it has bought part of a subsidiary of Rolls-Royce Power Engineering for an undisclosed sum.

The UK business said its materials testing divisions had bought the trade and assets of the mechanical testing business at International Research and Development.

Bodycote, based at Macclesfield, Cheshire, said jobs at the operation would be safeguarded and would continue to be run from existing premises at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



The impact of the strong pound and the Asian economic crisis on airport shops has stabilised in recent months and may cease to be a problem within two months

## BAA optimistic on sterling

BAA, THE country's largest airport operator, yesterday sounded a note of optimism for companies with overseas earnings when it claimed that the negative effect of the strong pound and the Asian economic crisis on its business would disappear within two months.

In a bullish statement, the group, which runs London's Heathrow and Gatwick hubs, said that the impact of the two factors on its airport shops' sales has "stabilised" in recent months and "should soon be

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

come a lesser factor in year-on-year comparison."

The company's retail operations, mainly duty-free shops, have suffered in the past as sterling's strength pushed up prices and the Far Eastern tourists reduced the number of high-spending Asian travellers going through its hubs.

However, a company spokesman said that the two problems would stop having a negative impact from "August

or September" as BAA benefits from a favourable comparison with last year, when earnings were hit by the Asian crisis.

His comments came as BAA reported a 3.7 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the first quarter to £141m.

The results were driven by a 7.5 per cent growth in passenger numbers to 28.6 million, with revenue paid by airlines to use the airport up 7.4 per cent to £465m.

UK retail revenue rose 6.8 per cent to £120m.

Name	Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	Ex-Dividend
BAI (0+)	483m (676m)	14.1m (20.3m)	1.4p (2.0p)	1.4p	01/09/98	01/09/98
Bearish Options (I)	29.28m (23.592m)	6.2m (4.09m)	1.2p (0.78p)	1.2p	01/09/98	01/09/98
Belvoir Indemnity (I)	15.0m (2.6m)	2.3m (2.7m)	1.5p (2.7p)	1.5p	01/09/98	01/09/98
English & Wales Properties (I)	5.67m (C.219m)	0.77m (0.052m)	0.33p (-)	0.33p	15/09/98	03/08/98
Hilversum Group (I)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	17/09/98	03/08/98
Jacobs Holdings (I)	38.6m (C.9m)	3.2m (1.03m)	4.3p (0.8p)	0.55p (0.5p)	14/09/98	03/08/98
Lawrence (I)	17.7m (15.0m)	2.91m (2.19m)	2.91m (2.19m)	2.91m (2.19m)	28/09/98	03/08/98
Littledown (F)	2.288m (2.284m)	191.1m (74.7m)	7.05p (6.85p)	7.05p (6.85p)	01/10/98	-
Moorside Group (I)	7.14m (0.886m)	7.14p (0.886m)	7.14p (0.886m)	7.14p (0.886m)	01/10/98	-
Myerscough (I)	13.31m (8.89m)	3.12m (1.21m)	1.2p (1.21p)	1.2p (1.21p)	05/10/98	01/09/98
National Grid (F)	12.12m (12.12m)	2.51m (2.51m)	2.51m (2.51m)	2.51m (2.51m)	01/10/98	01/09/98
Northumbrian Int'l (S)**	1.25m (1.25m)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	-	-
Starlets (I)	5.964m (6.5m)	0.245m (0.632m)	0.21p (0.53p)	0.21p (0.53p)	-	-
Tappa Tilts (F)	31.3m (24.4m)	4.13m (2.51m)	14.2p (8.4p)	3.5p (3.4p)	10/10/98	14/09/98

# SPORT

**Football:** New era of player freedom has forced the smallest clubs in England to deal with the biggest problems

## Bosman transfers power to richest

By GUY HODGSON

IT WAS a normal day in the market. Everton bought Olivier Dacourt for £2.8m and Newcastle closed in on the Peruvian winger, Nolberto Solano. Nothing extraordinary – quite mundane as transfers go in these cash-plenty times – but more reason for alarm in clubs in a different financial league.

The common factor in the above deals, and in almost every large-sum move is the direction of the money – not downwards but abroad. Strasbourg of France not Southend of Essex will benefit from Goodison's largess while Boca Juniors will take the money once St James' Park plunders its riches for Solano.

It is a story repeated ad nauseum if you are holding the purse strings at a smaller club. Examine the transfers costing more than £500,000 this year and the trickle from the elite to clubs in the bottom two divisions has all but dried up. Newcastle are reported to be offering Peterborough a £4m package to buy the 16-year-old winger Matthew Etherington – which would supplement the £2.3m deal that West Ham paid Rochdale's goalkeeper Stephen Bywater as a record for a YTS boy – but that is an exception.

In general the cash is flowing offshore or between the Premiership and the First Division, exacerbating the gap between the top and the bottom and imperilling clubs from the lower orders who have to sell to survive. Foreign imports, Bosman, escalating wages, a whole bank of disadvantages are ganging up on the hard-up, and, unlike society, the poor may not always be with us.

"I can see a time when the Third Division becomes a glorified Vauxhall Conference," said Steve Wignall, the manager of Colchester United, a club whose purchasing power is illustrated by their record fee, £50,000 for Mark Gregory.

"A lot have players have gone down to that level already because clubs cannot afford their wages. We haven't been affected yet but it's probably just a matter of two or three years."

The Bosman ruling, which allows footballers to move without a fee if they are out of contract, has proved to be a twin-edged sword. "I would say 10 per cent have benefited," Wignall said. "People like Steve Staunton [who joined Liverpool on a free transfer from Aston Villa] are minting it, and good luck to him, but there are a lot of players who are worse off."

The obvious danger of Bosman was that smaller clubs would stop youth development rather than spend money on grooming, only for bigger clubs to cherry-pick their crop for nothing. That has been addressed partly by rules introduced in England this year which means players aged 24 or under will command a fee no matter whether they are under contract, but the system is not entirely safe, as Carl Serrant's transfer from Oldham Athletic to New Castle United this month illustrates.

Serrant, 22, is an England B defender and Oldham – a Second Division club who were in the Premiership four years ago and who are expected to announce a £1m operating loss for the financial year ending 31 May – would have anticipated receiving double that under the old system. Under the current system they got £500,000.

Although Oldham were entitled to



Chelsea's Pierluigi Casiraghi (left) and Marcel Desailly (centre), and Manchester United's Jaap Stam (right) cost their new clubs £20.75m combined, a figure that demonstrates not only the widening gulf between Premiership and lower division clubs' spending power, but also the flow of money out of the English game and into foreign pockets.

money for a move between two English clubs, the fee was beaten down because Serrant could have gone abroad for nothing. For a business that received precisely that when out-of-contract Chris Makin moved to Marseilles, Oldham had no choice but to accept the cut-price offer.

The reaction has been one of anger and dismay, particularly as

Newcastle paid £1.5m for Stoke City's teenage full-back Andy Griffin in January. "We feel Feyenoord were interested in Carl," Oldham's manager Andy Ritchie said. "And after a lot of soul searching we decided we had no option but to agree to the Newcastle move. We feel cheated but this has been forced upon us. We couldn't risk him going abroad."

The impact on the club's strate-

gy is greater than a sense of grievance. "We can't now rely on transfers to balance our books," Alan Hardy, Oldham's chief executive, said. "The Serrant episode means it's important we live within our means.

"We have been accused by some

of our supporters of lacking ambition but we signed players initially on rea-

sonable salaries to get us back in the Premiership and later to get us in the First Division. We have made some progress to reduce the wage bill but it's difficult when players are under contract and impossible to do it at a stroke."

If Oldham, who were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1994, are strug-

gling, they are not alone. The dilemma is either to put players on long contracts and reasonable salaries with the incumbent drain on resources or to risk losing prize assets for nothing. If money was tumbling down the divisions it would help. Instead it is either going to the Continent or finding the White Feather's nest egg with £40,000-a-week wages.

Even those successfully walking

the line are worried. Along the M62 from Oldham, Bury are surviving in the First Division with gates of around 6,000 and this month they, said Paul Butler to Sunderland for £900,000. How long can they defy gravity is dependent on factors beyond their control.

"We're very susceptible to wage levels at other clubs," Bury's chairman, Terry Robinson, said. "If they escalate then ours are affected too because players can walk out on us when their contract runs out. It means we have to sell players when we don't want to."

They then have to find a buyer or a fee that is acceptable. Bosman and the availability of international players at cut price means the odds are now in favour of the purchaser. You cannot blame the lesser Premiership clubs who have to compete with the financial heavyweights – somehow Derby County spent millions of Lionel Pickering's money on English players but did not get promoted until they began to buy from abroad – but the victims will be the lower clubs.

The logical outcome is a growing divide with the rich getting more and the poor going part-time. The sad thing is there does not seem to be a remedy.

### PLAYERS IN MOTION: ENGLISH

#### JANUARY

PLAYERS MOVING TO ENGLAND: Anders Andersson Milan to Newcastle £3m Valerio Berti Inter Milan to West Ham £6m Lars Bergström Strasbourg-Crystal Palace £1.5m Jean-Pierre Belotti Sampdoria-Sunderland £750,000.

PLAYERS MOVING WITHIN ENGLAND: Trevor Sinclair QPR-West Ham £2m Andy Griffin Stoke City-Newcastle £1.5m Jan Lagerblom Sheff Utd-Barnsley £1.2m Neil Ruddock Derby County-Liverpool £1.2m Derry Notes County-Sheff Utd £700,000 Wayne Collins Sheff Wed-Fulham £500,000.

PLAYERS MOVING ABROAD: Faustino Asprilla Newcastle-Lima £6m in November. Michael Duberry-Tottenham £2.5m. Paulick Blaauw Sheff Wed-Bordeaux £1.2m Brigitte Deane Sheff Wed-Bordeaux £1.2m Brigitte Deane Sheff Wed-Benfica £1m Pierre Laurent Leeds-Basta £500,000.

#### FEBRUARY

PLAYERS MOVING TO ENGLAND: Massimo Salvi Valencia-Tottenham £2.3m. Ricardo Zonta-Deportivo Call-Middlesbrough

### CLUB TRANSFERS OF

#### MORE THAN £500,000 IN 1998

PLAYERS MOVING ABROAD: Giorgio Kiski Kazakstan Man City-Alavés Sase Milano-Aston Villa-Real Zaragoza £3.5m.

PLAYERS MOVING TO ENGLAND: Jaap Stam PSV Eindhoven-Man Utd £10.75m Pierluigi Casiraghi Lazio-Chelsea £5.4m Stephane Guivarc'h Auxerre-Newcastle £3.5m Sébastien Perez Bastia-Blackburn £2.5m Michael Popp Borussia Mönchengladbach-Everton £300,000 Eddie Jones Wimbledon-QPR £500,000 Eddie McFarlane Cheltenham £500,000 Shauna Geater Bristol City-Man City £500,000.

PLAYERS MOVING WITHIN ENGLAND: David Johnson Birmingham-Cardiff City £1.75m Alan Armstrong Stockport-Middlesbrough £1.5m John Beresford Newcastle-Southampton £1.5m Dan Hinchliffe Sheffield Utd-Everton £1m Matt Jansen Villa-Birmingham £1m Dale Adelola-Crewe-Birmingham £1m Tony Thorpe-Luton-Fulham £800,000 Darren Purse-Oxford-Birmingham £600,000 Gary Delap-Carlsbad-Leyton Orient-Luton Town-Lightbourne-City-Southend £500,000 James Galan-Blackpool-WBA £500,000.

PLAYERS MOVING ABROAD: Michael Mancuso Roma-Parma £1.5m Claude Darcheville-Tottenham £1.35m Paolo Trascanzani Placentia-Tottenham £1.35m Sébastien Grosjean-Nantes-Norwich Forest £700,000 David Grandjean St Etienne-Arsenal £500,000.

PLAYERS MOVING WITHIN ENGLAND: Michael Carruthers-Cardiff City £1.2m David Cotterill-Cardiff City £1.2m Alan Thompson Bolton-Aston Villa £4.5m Gary Madine Bolton-Aston Villa £700,000 Yorgos Vayaldis Panathinaikos-Newcastle £500,000.

PLAYERS MOVING ABROAD: John Spencer QPR-Everton £1.5m Ade Akinbiyi-Gillingham-Bristol City £1.2m Jim Corbett-Gillingham-Blackburn £525,000.

PLAYER MOVING ABROAD: Jon Dahl Tomasson Newcastle-Feyenoord £2.5m.

### JULY

#### PLAYERS MOVING TO ENGLAND: Massimo Salvi Valencia-Man Utd £6.6m

Jean-Louis Lyngby-Bolton £1.6m Ricardo Garces-Valencia £1.5m

Charlene Casares-Newcastle £520,000 Olivier Desaive Strasbourg-Everton £3.8m

Gérard Hegemans Rosenborg-Liverpool £3.5m

Jesper Blomqvist Parma-Man Utd £5m

PLAYERS MOVING WITHIN ENGLAND: Michael Mancuso Roma-Parma £1.5m Claude Darcheville-Tottenham £1.35m Paolo Trascanzani Placentia-Tottenham £1.35m Sébastien Grosjean-Nantes-Norwich Forest £700,000 David Grandjean St Etienne-Arsenal £500,000.

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Compiled by Hoyers

## Schumacher Snr recommends Ralf

MOTOR RACING

By DERICK ALLSOP  
in Zeltweg

RALF SCHUMACHER is the driver Williams need to lead them into a bright new era. That, at least, is the way Michael Schumacher sees it.

Williams are a team in turmoil or transition, depending on your perspective. The undisputed facts are that last year they won the constructors' and drivers' championships, but this season they are only fourth in the team standings and do not have a driver who figures in the top six.

Jacques Villeneuve, the reigning champion, is leaving to join the new British American Racing team and Williams officials have expressed their dissatisfaction with the form of Heinz-Harald Frentzen.

They have been rebuffed by their former driver and champion, Damon Hill, and would appear to have little chance of enticing another ex-employee, David Coulthard, from McLaren-Mercedes.

They are widely expected to sign Alex Zanardi, the CART champion, but that leaves another seat vacant and the limited options have forced them to suggest Frentzen may not necessarily be leaving.

Schumacher Snr, however, recommends another German. His little brother, according to a confidant, Michael has told Ralf not to rush into a new contract with Jordan, and that he should wait for an opportunity at Williams.

Ralf's recent form has undoubtedly raised his profile and with it his market value. He had a stirring fight with Michael in Sunday's Austrian Grand Prix here before finishing fifth, his second successive points-scoring performance. Hill was seventh and has still to get off the mark with Jordan.

Williams are unlikely to challenge McLaren and Ferrari for the championship next season, but then the same can be said of Jordan and every other team in the pit lane. In the year 2000 Williams launch their partnership with BMW and then it would be reasonable to assume the only way is up.

Ralf is beginning to curb some of his wilder tendencies and clearly has the pace and aggression of a front-line driver, if not the sublime talent of his brother. He is the right nationality for Williams' new engine partners and, at 23, is the right age to plan a long-term alliance.

Williams might prefer to have a Briton on board, hence their approach to Hill, and there remains a

lobby for Coulthard. But the Scot's splendid drive from the back of the field to second place behind team mate Mike Häkkinen on Sunday here has presumably reinforced his position at McLaren. He is already focusing on a championship challenge next year, having effectively conceded this season's title to the Finn.

Johnny Herbert would relish a

chance to drive for Williams, yet seems to have been given little encouragement. It is difficult to argue against Michael Schumacher's assertion that Ralf is as good as, if not better, than any one available to Williams.

Even Zanardi has to be something of a risk. He may be on course for a second title in north America, but the crossover is not

always easy or successful. Witness Michael Andretti.

The Italian, of course, made 25 grand prix appearances earlier in his career, so the move would not be a culture shock. His cars were unexceptional, but he scored only one point and few at the time lamented the defection of a superstar.

Hill, meanwhile, has an option to drive on with Jordan and they are negotiating. There persists a school of thought that the Englishman could link up with his former teammate Villeneuve, at BAR.

Meanwhile, McLaren are awaiting today's outcome of their appeal against the result of the British Grand Prix.

McLaren lodged an appeal with the sport's governing body, the FIA, against the victory of double world champion Michael Schumacher saying he should not have been allowed to win the race after he finished in the pit lane a fortnight ago. The International Court of Appeal will publish its decision in Paris this morning.

The race stewards admitted that



they made mistakes in applying a 10-second time penalty to Schumacher for passing another car under a yellow caution flag, including not displaying it on the official race timing screen seen by all teams. They rescinded the time penalty and "in view of all the circumstances" imposed no alternative penalty.

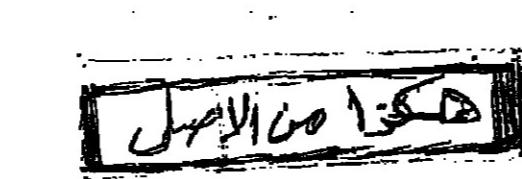
Schumacher was leading Mika Häkkinen's second-placed McLaren in the closing laps, and took the penalty by going into the pit lane on his victory lap, leaving Häkkinen to take the chequered flag.

### Three spectators killed at US 500

THREE SPECTATORS were killed and six others injured when a tyre and pieces of suspension flew into the grandstand during a crash at the US 500 in Brooklyn, Michigan, on Sunday. The Mexican driver Adrian Fernandez was in third place in the CART race when his car slid into the wall on lap 175 of the 250-lap race, run on a two-mile, high-banked oval. His right front tyre and pieces of the suspension broke off, flying into the crowd in the fourth-turn grandstand. Fernandez was not seriously injured.

It was the first spectator death at the track since 1969 when one fan was killed during a Trans-Am race on the road course. The Canadian Greg Moore won the race in a Reynard Mercedes-Benz. The American Jimmy Vasser and Alessandro Zanardi, of Italy, finished second and third in Reynard Hondas.

Britain's Mark Blundell, who has finished in the top six of every previous 500-mile race he has competed in, could manage only 17th at the Michigan circuit. Blundell lost a lap early on because of handling prob-





# Punishment fits the bill

By GREG WOOD

ONCE AGAIN, it is time to give thanks for the third Duke of Richmond and Gordon's exquisite taste in garden furniture. It is almost 200 years since he decided to do something with the generously proportioned patch of land behind Goodwood House, and rather than be content with a deck chair or two, the Duke thought big. He installed a racecourse, one which still has few equals anywhere in the world for the beauty of its situation, and any number of struggling punters will be grateful this week for the instant spiritual lift which a gaze across the downs can provide.

And a struggle it will probably be, since all of its aesthetic qualities, Goodwood makes unusual demands of its competitors which can easily surprise the horses, their riders and those who are backing them. It takes a certain type of horse to negotiate a tight, inclined turn at high speed without either ending up in the grandstand or falling off the side of the hill, while the descent towards the home straight is so steep that front-runners often build up an unassailable head of steam.

The draw too can play a significant role, even in races over

10 furlongs like the Chesterfield Cup, the principal betting event on the first afternoon as Glorious Goodwood. With the sharp home turn to negotiate after six furlongs, a good position against the inside rail is likely to be a major advantage, which a horse drawn in a low-numbered stall is unlikely to enjoy.

This does not, of course, mean that it is impossible for Badlesmere or Almond Rock, from stalls one and two respectively, to win this after

**RICHARD EDMONDSON**  
Nap: China Red  
(Goodwood 5.35)  
NB: Perfect Paradigm  
(Goodwood 2.45)

noon, and the latter in particular deserves his prominent place in the morning betting. Their task is that much more difficult, however, and it makes more sense to look for a horse with both good recent form and a useful position at the start.

Front-runners do so well at Goodwood that Anak-Ku, a 16-chance who has the highest draw of all, is hard to ignore, but his poor run in the Magnet Cup at York earlier this month is too fresh in the memory. Just two boxes away, though, is Punishment, who was runner-up be-

hind Yavanna's Pace in one of the strongest handicaps of the season at Sandown three weeks ago, and has not suffered as seriously as the winner from the wrath of the handicapper. This is a desperately difficult race, but at around 12-1 this morning, Punishment (3.50) is a reasonable bet.

The Pattern-race interest today is at Group Three level, although the Gordon Stakes, opening the card, may prove to be one of the strongest such races of the season. The Gordon is often a poorly contested consolation event for Derby also-rans and St Leger outsiders, but this year's renewal is a fascinating meeting between six three-year-olds who already have promising form, at the very least, to their name.

Victory for any of them would hardly rate as a surprise, so the short price chalked up against Henry Cecil's Hitman this morning is best avoided. Of his rivals, Nedawi (2.15) has the greatest scope for improvement and is the one to support.

Both form and sentiment will combine to make Lochangel, a half-sister to Lochech, the favourite for the King George Stakes, and she will be hard to catch over one of the fastest sprint courses in the country. Her wide draw is not ideal, though, while the most accom-



Carmine Lake, has a burden to blunt her speed at Goodwood today Phil Smith

plished horse in the race, Carmine Lake, is saddled with a 10-furlong penalty for her victory in last year's Prix de l'Abbaye.

Land Of Dreams

3.20 Land Of Dreams  
3.50 Supply And Demand

GOING: Good (Good in Firm in places) Penitentiary reading 3.6.

STALLS: Straight course - stands firm. Round course - tracks (except 1m 4f - outside 5f) Firm. Loosening as good as ever when in the Judds Up at Newmarket.

■ COURSE: S of Chichester between A266 and A265. Chichester station 4m. ADMISSION: Richmond Enclosure - members and their guests only; Gordon Enclosure £20; Public Enclosure £7. (Accompanied Under-18s free Gordon and Public enclosure); Entrances £10. (Accompanied Under-18s £5). Dogs: No dogs allowed.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Horner 23 wins from 327 runners (success rate 10.1%). P Colic 31/46 (21.2%). Sh M Stynes 24/91 (25.4%). H Clegg 12/30 (43.3%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: T Quinn 44 wins from 283 rides (success rate 15.5%). L Detton 38/82 (20.9%). Pat Eddery 37/97 (16.9%). J Reid 35/61 (14.3%).

FAVOURITES: 1st 100% (100%) 2nd 100% (100%) 3rd 100% (100%) 4th 100% (100%)

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## GOODWOOD

### HYPERION

2.15 Rabah 4.25 My Petal (nb)

2.45 Fahs 5.00 ELHIDA (nap)

3.20 Land Of Dreams 5.35 Hakeem

3.50 Supply And Demand

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# The road to expansion lies ahead

A MODEST success that can be built on - that should be the verdict on rugby league's ramble over the last three weeks. The biggest crowd of the venture at Swansea on Sunday night brought down the curtain on what was billed as "Super League On The Road".

On the road to where, that's the question. The cautious answer must be that it is a little closer than it was to finding the wider audience on which its future depends.

The attendances - even at Swansea - were not spectacular. But, after a disappointing first night at Gateshead, the project developed a momentum of its own, with the enthusiasm for what was essentially an alien game growing steadily in the other far-flung venues.

Over 30,000 people watched the six matches - around two-thirds of the numbers that might have been expected if they had all been played as part of a conventional weekend's fixtures.

At a rough guess, just half of those were supporters travelling to support their club, with Bradford's representation at Edinburgh predictably leading the way. That means that the other 15,000 were people who would not otherwise have seen a live Super League match.

"Anyone who increases their business by a third, which is what we did, would be delighted," said Super League's managing director, Maurice Lindsay, as he shuffled the figures.

Attracting new punters and showing them what the game is about was a worthwhile achievement, even if few of them are yet in a position to become regular supporters. The awareness has been planted in new minds - many of them very young minds - and that has to be progress.

**Dave Hadfield** considers the success of 'Super League On The Road' and concludes it still has some way to go

It was expecting too much that all the games would be of a soaringly high standard; some clubs reacted far better than others to the disruption in the usual schedule. But the country saw a fair cross-section of the good, the bad and the indifferent and seemed to enjoy it.

It was a shame that St Helens could not compete effectively with Wigan in the final game in Swansea, but at least the biggest audience of the enterprise saw the game played as it should be by one side.

It was fitting that Wigan should also be the most positive influence off the field, calling in at their twin club in Cheltenham en route and generally treating the whole experience as something they wanted to do rather than something they had to do.

"I thought it [the match in Swansea] was very successful," said their coach, John Monie.

"It was a good ground, a good atmosphere and it showed that the people of South Wales want to go to a rugby league match - which is great."

Not too much should be read into these matches when it comes to deciding which cities should be able to go to a match every fortnight when Super League expands - as it must - next season.

Gateshead's credibility took something of a knock on the opening night, but that was repaired to some extent when more locals turned up to watch Hull play Huddersfield.

"I think we are the front-runners now," said the Swansea City chairman, Neil McClure, after a buoyant evening at the Vetch Field. He knows, however, that was the fixture rather than the venue that made that the best attended match. What that and the game in Cardiff prove is that there must be a

colour clash at Northampton.

Lindsay believes that there is much to be learned from the exercise - and not just in matters like avoiding the ludicrous

team in South Wales next season.

Lindsay believes that there is much to be learned from the exercise - and not just in matters like avoiding the ludicrous

one of the play-off games this year, he said.

That is where fantasy starts to take over from reality. Try telling Bradford, for instance, that they must give up home ad-

vantage in a game that leads to the Grand Final. That is an idea that has not been thought out properly. Rugby League is on the road to somewhere, but it is still prone to navigating as it goes.

Salford have recruited Joey Hayes from St Helens, while Saints are set to sign the Australian prop, Phil Adamson. Wigan are expected to sell their prop, Neil Cowie, to Hull this week, while Bradford have joined London in tracking Featherstone's Karl Pratt.

Meanwhile, York expect to complete their fixtures this season after reaching agreement with their players, who had threatened to strike when they were not paid.

The Rugby League has until Friday to submit its defence to a writ served by Blackpool Gladiators, claiming £80,000 in lost earnings after being denied a place in the league.

ON THE ROAD WITH SUPER LEAGUE: HOW THE SIX VENUES RATED

## GATESHEAD

**FRIDAY 10 JULY:** Leeds 34 Salford 16.

**ATTENDANCE:** 4,122.

A bad night in the North-east. Foul weather, a poor spectacle and an announced crowd that looked suspiciously doctorated.

## NORTHAMPTON

**FRIDAY 17 JULY:** Halifax 32 Sheffield 10.

**ATTENDANCE:** 3,087.

A modest crowd at a modest ground, but there was a cheerful, upbeat atmosphere and a fine display from Halifax. Both teams played in blue, which can hardly have been of any help to newcomers.

## EDINBURGH

**SATURDAY 18 JULY:** London 22 Bradford 8.

**ATTENDANCE:** 6,863.

The Bulls' unique fans went north in numbers, but Shaun Edwards dominated the atmospheric Tynecastle with a performance that demolished his former club.

## GATESHEAD

**FRIDAY 24 JULY:** Hull 21 Huddersfield 10.

**ATTENDANCE:** 4,306.

A far better night at the International Stadium. Not the greatest of games, but a good, tight contest decided by an outstanding centre display from Logan Campbell.

## CARDIFF

**SATURDAY 25 JULY:** Castleford 23 Warrington 16.

**ATTENDANCE:** 4,437.

Respectable turn-out - although a better guide to the potential at Cardiff Arms Park was that 34 of the 37 boxes were sold. Dreadful first half, thrilling second.

## SWANSEA

**SUNDAY 26 JULY:** Wigan 36 St Helens 2.

**ATTENDANCE:** 8,572.

They came down from the valleys again and saw Wigan's Andy Farrell, Gary Connolly and Kris Radlinski demonstrate just how good the best rugby league players are.

## RUGBY UNION

**DOUGASH**, the chief executive of the English Rugby Partnership, is looking to create a new European event after leading French clubs pulled out of the European Cup.

The French action follows the withdrawal of the leading English clubs from this year's competition before last season's tournament was completed.

Ash, also chief executive of English First Division Rugby,

stressed time was against setting up a fresh competition. Any new initiative would only proceed with the approval of the governing unions, but it appeared that European Rugby Cup Ltd, which organises the European Cup, was no longer viable.

He said: "ERC have lost the bulk of clubs who have featured in the knock-out stages of the last two competitions, in our case, because we disagree with the way the ERC organised the competition.

"If we can set something up, it will be organised by the clubs with the approval of the unions. But there are huge factors that need to be favourable - commerce, TV, sponsorship and, overridingly, inserting the fixtures into a crowded season."

The Scottish authorities have warned English and French clubs that they would be in breach of International Rugby Board regulations if they joined forces to form a new competition.

## RACING RESULTS

### NEWCASTLE

**2.15s** (6) maiden auction stakes, 3yo. 1. **WV CLUBS** ... Martin Hayes 2-1. Carroll 1-1. Edwards 1-1. Smithies ... Dean McIlroy 8-1. 3. Trinity ... K Darley 9-4 Fav.

Also 6-1 Samson's Liby, B-Montague Tag, 12-1 Cranford, 20-1 Carequick, 25-1 Durham Dandy, 28-1 Premier, 31-1 Shambles, 33-1 Spy (4th), 22-1 Turnbridge (6th), 30-1 Grey Seal, 50-1 End Vertice.

14 ran, 2-1, 1st, 3rd, 3rd, winner bay filly by First Trump out of Miss Cindy, trained by Mrs J Cest, Newmarket, for Stephen R Hobbs, 16-1, 1st, 2-1, 4th, 1st, 1st, 1st, 1st, 1st, Dual Forecast: £22,600, CSF: £1,688.

7 ran, 1/1, nk, nk, nk, winner bay mare by Rambo Dancer out of Musical Princess, trained by E Wayman, Layburn, for Mrs N Sibson, 16-1, 1st, 2-1, 1st, 1st, 1st, 1st, Dual Forecast: £22,600, CSF: £1,688.

plane spot: £22,600, Quadruplet: £75,200, Place: 6, C, Place: 5, C.

### FOLKESTONE

**2.45s** (1) maiden ... K Darley 1-3 Fav. 2. **TRUMP** ... K Darley 1-3 Fav. 3. **WV CLUBS** ... Martin Hayes 2-1. Carroll 1-1. Edwards 1-1. Smithies ... Dean McIlroy 8-1. 4. Trinity ... K Darley 9-4 Fav.

Also 6-1 Samson's Liby, B-Montague Tag, 12-1 Cranford, 20-1 Carequick, 25-1 Durham Dandy, 28-1 Premier, 31-1 Shambles, 33-1 Spy (4th), 22-1 Turnbridge (6th), 30-1 Grey Seal, 50-1 End Vertice.

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plane spot: £22,600, Quadruplet: £75,200, Place: 6, C, Place: 5, C.

### WINDSOR

**2.00s** (1) **FADMOOR** (A Nichols) 33-1. 2.

Baldic Lowland 15-5, 3. Aigle Flame 100-3, 4 ran, 11-10 fav Midien Two 4th, 1st, 1st, 2-1, 4th, 1st, 1st, 1st, 1st, Dual Forecast: £22,600, CSF: £1,688.

the result stood.

### WINDSOR

**2.00s** (1) **FADMOOR** (A Nichols) 33-1. 2.

Baldic Lowland 15-5, 3. Aigle Flame 100-3, 4 ran, 11-10 fav Midien Two 4th, 1st, 1st, 2-1, 4th, 1st, 1st, 1st, 1st, Dual Forecast: £22,600, CSF: £1,688.

the result stood.

### WINDSOR

**2.00s** (1) **INDIANA LEGEND** (Pat Eddy)

8-1 fav, 2. Central Coast 7-1, 3. Smirkers

8-1, 16 ran, 1/1, nk, (B Meekin), Total: £1,680, Dual Forecast: £22,600, CSF: £1,688.

Dual forecast: £22,600, Quadruplet: £75,200, Place: 6, C, Place: 5, C.

### YARMOUTH

**4.10s** (1) **DANEGERD** (A Eddy) 11-2.

Melodian 5-1, Kennedy 25-1, K Darley 12-1.

1. MELODIAN ... K Darley 16-1. 2. Kennedy ... K Darley 12-1.

3. Balance The Books ... J Carroll 16-1. 4. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

5. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 6. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

7. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 8. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

9. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 10. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

11. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 12. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

13. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 14. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

15. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 16. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

17. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 18. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

19. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 20. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

21. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 22. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

23. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 24. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

25. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 26. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

27. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 28. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

29. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 30. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

31. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 32. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

33. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 34. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

35. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 36. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

37. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 38. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

39. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 40. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

41. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 42. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

43. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 44. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

45. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 46. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

47. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 48. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

49. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1. 50. Spring Action ... M Darley 12-1.

51. Melodian ... K Darley 12-1.

# Rejected Black might retire early

## ATHLETICS

By MIKE ROWBOTTOM

ROGER BLACK's career in athletics is in the balance following yesterday's decision by the British selectors to pick Solomon Wariso, rather than him, for the remaining individual 400 metres place at next month's European Championships.

Black, the 32-year-old British team captain due to retire at the end of this season, is giving serious consideration to quitting now after seeing his one remaining major ambition put beyond reach.

The prospect of repeating last season's experience, when he ran only in the relay at the world championships, is something he is finding hard to come to terms with after setting his heart on a farewell attempt at winning a third European title.

Yesterday, Black said he was

"still in a state of shock" after narrowly missing out on third place to Wariso in a race where the two automatic qualifying places went, as expected, to the winner, Iwan Thomas and Mark Richardson.

Black said: "I thought the optional third place was for this situation. As I lost by only three hundredths of a second I thought they could have left it until the cut-off date of 8 August. It appears my record doesn't count for anything. I am an athlete motivated by major championships. My sole focus this year was the Europeans. Over the next few days I have to reflect on my motivation."

Black lowered his season's best from 45.18sec to 44.71 at Birmingham, but Wariso, who only chose to compete in the 400m rather than his usual distance of 200m the day before the championships began, lowered his outdoor best from 45.55 to 44.68 in what was only his fourth out-

door 400m race. The 31-year-old Haringey athlete had appeared to muddy the waters in the aftermath of Sunday night's race, claiming he had only entered the 400 "for a laugh", and adding he would prefer a run at Budapest over 200.

However, Britain's chief coach, Max Jones, confirmed that the selectors, who met late on Sunday night, had given the place to Wariso after checking how he felt. There was little chance that the third man

in the 200m, the European under-23 champion Julian Golding, would be bumped out in favour of a 31-year-old, especially as Golding only missed second place by 0.01sec.

Jones said: "Solomon said before the championships that he wanted to do the 400 metres and again confirmed it at midnight last night when we got him out of bed to ascertain his wishes. Wariso is very talented at both 200 and 400 metres. In particular we believe he has an

awesome talent at 400. If you look at the statistics, he could win in Budapest. It was a very difficult decision to make. I have known Roger since 1988. It will be tragic for everyone in the end if he doesn't go to Budapest. He can finish on a high note there in the 4x400 metres relay team. If Roger does go, he will be appointed captain. He is regarded with the highest respect by all the team. You have to exclude sentiment from team selection."

**GREAT BRITAIN TEAM FOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Men:** 100m: D Campbell, D Chambers (both Belgrave), M Devonish (Coveney); 200m: D Whistler (Newham), D Turner (Cardiff), J Golding; 400m: K Morris (Birchfield), S Williams (Southend); 1500m: A Hart (Coveney), 1500m steeplechase: K McLean (Birchfield), 10,000m: N Collier (Cardiff), J Brown (Sheffield); Marathon: R Morris (Harrow); 4x400m: P Richards (Edmonton), 10km: G Smith (Wolverhampton); 400m hurdles: P Gray (Cardiff), A Horan (Harrow); 3000m steeplechase: P Morgan (Birchfield); Triple jump: J Edwards (Gateshead), L Achilles (Cardiff); High jump: S Davies (Sutton), Hammer: J Hansen (Croydon); Pole vault: J Blackstock (Gatwick); Long jump: C Meary (both Shrewsbury), M Griffiths (Wrexham); Shot: J Oates (Croydon), Discus: S Drew (Sutton), Hammer: I Steven (Sale); L Sprenger (Harrow); Javelin: D Lewis (Birchfield); 4x100m relay: Corbridge, M Hill (Leeds), M Hobson (Newham), 4x100m relay (front): Campbell, Chambers, Devonish, Walker; A Condon (Sale); Golding, 4x400m: Thomas, Richardson, Wariso, R Black (team); Solom, M Hyndman (Windsor); S Baldock (Belgrave).

**Women:** 100m: J Madakasa (Essex Ladies); 200m: K Morris (Birchfield), S Williams (Southend); 400m: A Hart (Coveney), 400m steeplechase: K Morris (Harrow); 1500m: K McLean (Birchfield), 10,000m: N Collier (Cardiff), J Brown (Sheffield); Marathon: R Morris (Harrow); 4x400m: P Richards (Edmonton), 10km: G Smith (Wolverhampton); 400m hurdles: N Danaher (Croydon); Pole vault: J Blackstock (Gatwick); Triple jump: A Hansen (Croydon), Discus: S Drew (Sutton), Hammer: I Steven (Sale); L Sprenger (Harrow); Javelin: D Lewis (Birchfield); 4x100m relay: Corbridge, M Hill (Leeds), M Hobson (Newham), 4x100m relay (front): Campbell, Chambers, Devonish, Walker; A Condon (Sale); Golding, 4x400m: Thomas, Richardson, Wariso, R Black (team); Solom, M Hyndman (Windsor); S Baldock (Belgrave).

Black was the captain last year, helping to earn a relay silver medal in Athens despite having his individual racing undermined by a viral illness.

Mike Whittingham, Black's manager, believes that with another couple of races, Black could be in 44.4sec shape - and ready to contest the European title itself. But those races may now never take place.

Wariso yesterday promised to give "110 per cent" to running the 400. He admitted he had been "a bit fippant" after Sunday's race, but added: "I feel I had to play it a bit lightly. I had had 18 months off and I just wanted to come back and have a laugh and a joke with the boys."

He has never won a major medal, and disappointed at this year's European indoor championships despite going as favourite in the 400m after at Birmingham in an outstanding time of 45.71. As a measure

of his commitment, however, Wariso is now planning to postpone his wedding, which was due to take place in Florida next week, in order to prepare for Budapest.

Curiously, Black postponed his own wedding, due to take place last October, for the same reason. There is another odd link between the two: Wariso was born six months after Black in the same hospital - St Mary's, in Portsmouth. Now their destinies have interlinked, although Wariso, reasonably enough, stressed it was not he who had denied Black his last run, but the selectors.

Elsewhere there was little of a controversial nature for the selectors to deliberate upon. They have until 8 August to add names to the team, and a number of athletes are still seeking European qualifying marks, including Diane Modahl, who will attempt to break 2min 10sec for the 800m in Paris tomorrow night.

## Bullimore plans world record attempt

### SAILING

By STUART ALEXANDER

TONY BULLIMORE is planning a return to big time ocean racing. The man dramatically rescued from his capsized yacht just over 18 months ago by the Australian Navy is hoping to rejoin battle in the same waters in a world record attempt.

The Birmingham and Bristol-based businessman flew back from Florida yesterday hoping to buy from Royal & Sun Alliance the 32ft catamaran in which Tracy Edwards failed to set a new, non-stop round the world record after being dismasted earlier this year.

Edwards has this week announced she is seeking a massive £10m to fund an all-woman entry in the French-organised The Race, starting 31 December 2000, in a 120ft Nigel Irens-designed catamaran. She had an option to buy the cat in which Sir Peter Blake and Sir Robin Knox-Johnston set the world record in 1994 when it was Enza.

Bullimore startled the world when pictures of him swimming from underneath his upturned yacht, Endeavour, in which he had been trapped for five days, were beamed around the world. His 60ft monohull capsized when the keel broke off 1200 miles from the south-west corner of Australia. His rescue and return to Perth were a textbook naval operation.

Bullimore had hoped to compete in the Around Alone race from Charleston this September. Instead, he would use the giant catamaran to try and break the 71-day record set by Frenchman Olivier de Kersauson last year.

The two English teams among nine competing for the Rolex Commodore's Cup in two short races on the Solent yesterday were having a hard time, anchoring themselves more firmly in fifth and eighth overall as the Germans and Dutch fought for the major prizes.

Congratulations were sent by Mike Golding from Group 4 to Giovanni Soldini when he took his Open 60 across the finish line in Charleston overnight to win the Atlantic Alone race from Falmouth.

## TODAY'S NUMBER

15

The number of different nationalities in the Newcastle United football team squad if manager Kenny Dalglish signs Peru's Noberto Solano

Tour de France: Last year's winner loses the yellow jersey as the pirate finally fulfils his promise



Jan Ullrich (centre), who lost his position as the Tour overall leader after yesterday's 15th stage, is with the main bunch descending Col de la Croix de Fer in the rain

## Pantani's pace leaves Ullrich trailing

By ROBIN NICHOLL  
with the Tour de France

MARCO PANTANI conquered the Alps and his rivals yesterday. Today he rules the Tour de France after a remarkable performance that smashed the dreams of other contenders and left the Tour favourite, Jan Ullrich, limping home almost nine minutes in arrears.

For many-eyed Italians it brought back memories of 1985 when Fausto Coppi, slim and courageous like Pantani, won the Giro d'Italia and the Tour. Last month Pantani, known as *Il Pirata* because of his bandana head-dress, gold ear-ring, and beard, sent Italy ecstatic when he won the Giro on his favourite terrain, the Dolomite mountains.

"I had the courage to do this Tour and to attack today especially in such awful weather," the Italian said after finishing alone at Les Deux Alpes ski station in glacial rain. "I had many doubts at the beginning, but now I have reached my goal. I just want to enjoy the most beautiful day of my life."

"Some say my victories are boring because I attack and finish alone, but I took risks today. I attacked far from the finish. I was able

to stand the fatigue because in recent years I have had many opportunities to suffer. I just picked the right time to attack. Maybe I was more convinced than the others. When I attacked and no one responded that gave me extra determination."

Yet Pantani and Italy have had an impatient wait for his full promise to emerge. He spent 1996 out of action after smashing his left shin in a road accident, then returned to the Giro last year only to tangle with a wandering cat and spend more time out with injuries.

His victory at Les Deux Alpes yesterday broke up the Tour, with Ullrich looking nothing like his winning self, even more so after a puncture.

The impact of Pantani's triumph can be weighed by the fact that he was 3min 1sec behind the German overnight, and is now Tour leader by 3:33 from the American Bobby Julich, with Ullrich fourth, 5:56 adrift.

Ullrich was braced for attacks over the four mountain climbs. Julich's men, with their leader only 1:11 behind the German, were soon busy, and with attacks coming from all sides, Ullrich's team had to fight to hold command at the front of the group.

Ahead of them, the Italian Rodolfo Massi was picking up more points towards his defence of the polka dot jersey awarded for scoring points at designated summits. He was no danger to the yellow-jersey chasers, but Pantani was. As the contenders climbed the mighty Galibier, the

Tour's biggest mountain at 2,645 metres, Pantani was buried in the crowd, awaiting his chance.

When the Italian attacks it is with the speed of a man sprinting on a flat road. Few, if any, can hold him. "He was incredible," Julich said. "I knew he was very dangerous but I

did not think he could do what he did today. He made the rest of us look silly."

Pantani was first to cross the top of the 18-kilometre mountain pass, as Coppi had been on his way to victory 46 years ago. Then, on the rainy-slicked descent Pantani attempted to put on his plastic rain-top, but the wind threatened to whip it away. He stopped to zip up safely, and still had 2:47 on Ullrich as they descended to the key climb to the final climb to the Col de la Croix de Fer.

Pantani had Massi, Fernando Escrivá, from Spain, the Frenchman Christophe Riner, and another Spaniard, Marcos Serrano, for company but eight kilometres from the finish his final burst sent him 1:54 clear of Massi at the finish. Behind him, Ullrich had his puncture and Julich had a scare when he ran out of road descending from the Galibier and crashed, just missing a parked camper van.

There are more days in the mountain to come and there is every possibility that Pantani's legs may be inflicting further torture before the remaining 141 riders reach Paris on Sunday.

Yesterday, one Italian sat quietly smiling to himself as he watched

Pantani's show. Felice Gimondi was reliving his moment of yellow jersey triumph 33 years ago. It is that long since an Italian won the world's biggest race.

**TOUR DE FRANCE 15th stage: 117.5 miles, Grenoble-Les Deux Alpes 117.4 miles/189km**

**YESTERDAY: STAGE 15**

Start: Grenoble. Finish: Les Deux Alpes. Profile: 2500m, 2000m, 1500m, 1000m, 500m. Total: 117.4 miles/189km. Map: Shows route from Grenoble to Les Deux Alpes, including stops at Livet, Vizille, Gavet, Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne, Télegly, Gaillères, and finish at Les Deux Alpes. Includes a small map of the region.

**TODAY: STAGE 16**

Start: Vizille-Albertville. Finish: Albertville. Profile: 2000m, 1500m, 1000m, 500m. Total: 126.4 miles/204km. Map: Shows route from Vizille to Albertville, including stops at Pontcharra, Cucheron, Granier, Dérér, La Porte, La Chambre, and Madeleine. Includes a small map of the region.

## IOC calls conference on drugs as Mitchell faces suspension

### DRUGS IN SPORT

TWO OF the biggest names in American athletics were suspended as a result of drug tests yesterday, as the International Olympic Committee called a special conference to seek a definition of what constitutes doping.

The IOC's decision followed the publication of comments by its president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, that appeared to indicate he was softening his stance on drug abuse in sport.

The shot putter Randy Barnes and the sprinter Dennis Mitchell have been suspended pending the analysis of the B samples of urine they pro-

vided in tests on 1 April. The International Amateur Athletic Federation's spokesman, Giorgio Renieri, said Barnes and Mitchell had undergone out-of-competition tests.

Barnes, the 1996 Olympic champion who has been suspended before for drug use, is the world indoor and outdoor record-holder. He faces a ban if traces of anabolic steroids alone show up in the second test of his current sample. Mitchell, the 1992 Olympic bronze medallist in the 100 meters, has no previous offences and could be banned for two years if his B sample also contains a high level of testosterone.

A drug ban would be an embarrassment for Mitchell as he is president of the American track and field athletes' advisory committee, which has taken a hard line against drugs.

At the weekend, a Spanish newspaper, *El Mundo*, quoted Samaranch as saying the list of banned substances should be "drastically" reduced and drugs which do not damage an athlete's health should not be prohibited. The comments brought a barrage of criticism from those intent on ridding their sport of what they regard as a form of cheating that poses a threat to an athlete's health.

The British Olympic Association's chief executive, Simon Clegg, said the comments were "harmful" and went against the BOA's policy.

ONCE director, Manolo Saiz, Unze said: "It's very important because our sport needs to recapture its long-held good image. His comments are extremely important and we have to take advantage of them."

The IOC's initiative comes as a doping scandal continues to dog the Tour de France, with cyclists and team officials implicated in widespread use of EPO (erythropoietin), which boosts the production of red blood cells, and other illegal drugs.

The IOC said yesterday that Samaranch's statement was "fully in line with the ongoing work of the IOC and its medical commission, a sentiment echoed by the

aimed at checking and updating the list of prohibited substances."

It said Samaranch was referring to codeine, which was recently removed from the banned list. Reacting to suggestions that Samaranch was taking a softer line on drugs, the statement said the "IOC's determination was greater than ever."

Jacques Rogge, an IOC executive committee member and vice president of the IOC medical commission, said he wondered whether he had been misunderstood or misquoted. Prime Minister Tony Blair, the president of the IAAF, supported the IOC's call for a world doping conference. "The

problem of doping affects the whole of the sports movement and now needs to be resolved quickly and effectively after years of indecision and ineffectual decisions," he said.

Lawyers acting for Diane Modahl, who is seeking \$600,000 damages from the British Athletics Federation following her successful appeal against a doping ban, met administrators representing the now-bankrupt Federation yesterday. Administrators, Ron Speight, who had been seeking "an area of negotiation" regarding an out-of-court settlement, described it as "a positive meeting" and will report to creditors tomorrow.





# SPORT

PANTANI TAKES YELLOW JERSEY P26 • BLEAK OUTLOOK FOR BLACK P26



Fourth Test: Captains past and present earn England the chance of their first five-match series victory in 12 years

## Atherton wins test of nerves

BY DEREK PRINGLE  
at Trent Bridge

**South Africa 374 & 208  
England 336 & 247-2  
England win by 8 wickets**

IT TOOK a concerted team effort, as well as one or two heroic individual performances, for England to take their first bow in the summer spotlight. Underpinned by a superlative unbeaten 98 from Michael Atherton, and hastened by a blistering cameo from Alec Stewart, England beat South Africa by eight wickets in the level Test here yesterday to level the series at 1-1.

For once the curtain call was richly deserved and Trent Bridge was awash with more than 12,000 cheering spectators, the largest crowd for the final day of a home Test since 1991, when England beat the West Indies at the Oval.

A Test match win, particularly one that is so emphatic, can seldom have been more important for English cricket. Largely forgotten due to rival attractions earlier in the summer such as the World Cup, Wimbledon and the Open, cricket needed to

stand up and be counted. At Trent Bridge it not only did that but walked tall, the last five days providing a thrilling Test match that has breathed life into a series now level at 1-1 and due to be concluded at Headingley in 10 days' time.

After the torrid and base personal duels of the previous evening, yesterday—aside from the vital need for an England victory—proved something of an anti-climax, with England appearing to stroll home.

Winning margins can prove deceptive and if the fascinating close-ups had largely been played out, the broader picture still had to be completed. It

needed more resolute batting to prevent South Africa from snuffing any faint possibilities.

Beating South Africa is never an easy business for they would rather fall flat on their faces than be beaten.

Armed with Allan Donald, the finest new ball bowler in the world, and with few real slouches at the other end, it is their opponents who normally buckle when the tension mounts.

Fortunately England held firm and set about their task with determination and calculated efficiency. Inevitably

whenever such conditions prevail it is Atherton who soaks them up, though both Nasser Hussain, with whom he shared a 152-run partnership, and Stewart, played their part.

Trent Bridge has become something of a personal mecca for Atherton, who has amassed 862 runs here in nine Tests at an average of 61. Yesterday he spurned the chance of a 13th Test century, allowing Stewart to continue an extraordinary hitting spree that saw 45 runs come from 34 balls, nine of them boundaries.

"When I came in there was still 50 odd to get, so I was determined to hit the ball," Stewart said. "Having middled a few I got on a roll, though I did offer Athers his hundred. It would have been nice for him to get there, but he just said 'win the game.'"

Summing up Atherton's contribution the England captain, enjoying his first win in charge, had nothing but compliments for his predecessor. "He played superbly well. Although he's been written off in the past he's come through his bad patches. His battles with Allan Donald were what Test cricket is all about. It was a real big contest, with a quality quick against a quality opening batsman."

Carefully peered over the criticism he had received after putting South Africa in to bat, Stewart was adamant it was the right decision. If it was, he and his team owe a great debt to Angus Fraser, whose relentless professionalism and unerring accuracy got his team back into this match, particularly with his 5-62 in the second innings.

"It's a quality bowler and he fully deserved to be man of the match," Stewart said. "He's missed a lot of Test cricket with a hip injury, but in the last 12 months he's been exceptional. He was our best bowler in the West Indies and he was our best bowler here."

"I know that sounds a cold analysis but it's true," Atherton said, slaking his thirst with a cold bottle of beer. "As an opener you are trying to lay the foundations for the innings. When you carry it through to victory it's the icing on the cake. It's just nice to play a match-winning innings."

Dined three winters ago by

12-4-23-0 (4-1-6-0, 2-1-0, 0-2-0, 0-1-1-0, 0-3-1-0-0); Kallis 13-5-26-0 (1-1-1-0, 2-3-2-1-0, 1-1-0-0); Elworthy 9-1-38-0 (5-0-17-0, 6-1-2-0); Cronje 4-1-12-0 (nb1) (one spell).

**PROGRESS:** Fourth day: tea: 26-0 (Butcher 13, Atherton 7) 12 overs: 50-1 min, 22 4 overs. 100: 158 min. 38.3 overs. Close: 108-1 (Atherton 43, Hussain 25) 45 overs. Fifth day: 198-254 min, 62 overs. Match: 190-0 (Atherton 108, Hussain 57) 75 overs. 200: 317 min, 77.3 overs. New ball taken after 81 overs at 221-2.

Atherton's 50: 199 min, 150 balls, 8 fours. Hussain's 50: 225 mins, 158 balls, 4 fours.

England won by eight wickets at 2.29pm

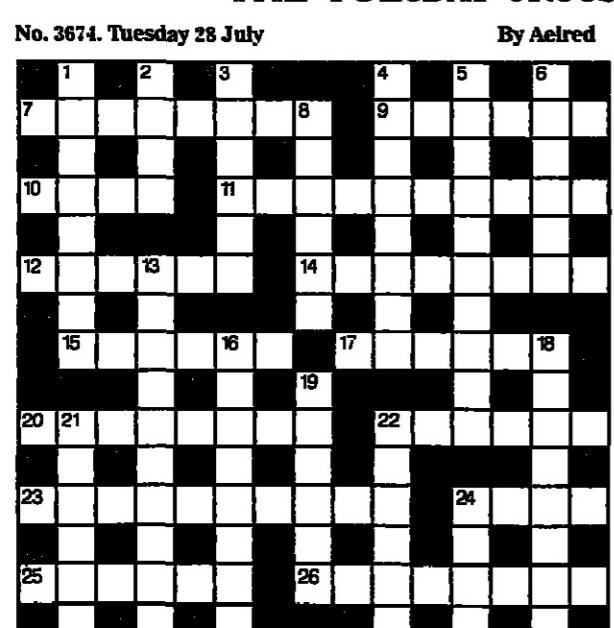
**Man of the match:** A R C Fraser.

**Adjudicator:** A R Lewis

**Bowling:** Donald 23-8-56-1 (5-2-6, 0-8-3-11-0, 5-3-7-0, 5-0-32-1); Pollock 26-8-79-1 (nb1 w1) (10-1-26-1, 9-1-30-0, 4-1-8-0, 3-0-15-0); Adams

(1-1-1-0, 2-4-1-0, 9-1-1-0); Extras (b2 b1 w2 nb9) ..... 24 Total (For 2, 356 mins, 87 overs) 247 Fall: 1-40 (Butcher) 2-192 (Hussain). Umpires: R S Dunne and M J Kirchen. TV Replay Umpire: R Julian. Match Referee: Ahmed Burahim.

THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- A period in the US? (4,4)
  - Before getting wonderful this was a basic house (6)
  - A live daughter but not yet active (4)
  - Pretty type of competent searcher (4-6)
  - It lists mistakes of traitor in time (6)
  - Diary pal edited is dealing with gemstones (6)
  - Emit cry of pain, being cowardly? (6)
  - Note judge discharge burden (6)
  - Common, plain bee flying round (8)
  - Conductor wants instrument to produce hard sound? (6)
- DOWN**
- String along with colourful French cooking, sort of? (6-4)
  - With frequency lubricate aluminium? (4)
  - Arrived with artist having something to produce a picture (6)
  - Covered rejected by a conservative tending to delay (8)
  - French article about boy being naked (6)
  - Potential of halo as something to ensure you're spotless (6)
  - Order pudding? (5,3)
  - Not good enough to help the groom? (6-4)
  - Nurse keeps English (6)

By Aled

Monday's Solution

EDINBURGH UNMINGED  
S E N D  
O P H E L I A E X P E N D S  
D A I U P S N T  
K E N Y A N S T R A P E Z E  
L C N I I R E  
E L E C T R I C  
B I T P L A Y E R  
A R U R A L D E A N C R A W L  
N E O T H U E  
I N I G R O I A R A L S E A  
M U R R A C C O V E R  
G O D D E R V E G O  
N E Q U I T Y  
T A K E O N E T I M E

BY HENRY BLOFELD

THE FINAL partnership of a brilliant Test match, between Mike Atherton and Alec Stewart, made for an intriguing contrast. England's present captain and his immediate predecessor saw their side home with imminence which spoke as loudly of their different styles as it did of their different characters.

Atherton had fought for six and a quarter hours as only he can when Stewart came in. He had chiselled 88 runs out of perhaps the best pair of fast bowlers in the world, he had won a ferocious duel with Allan Donald and he had made it as certain as he could, that this was not an opportunity England would waste.

His had been an innings in which the central thread had been his monumental powers of concentration. Yes, he probably had gloved that ball on Sunday evening which led to some good old dirty looks between him and Donald. There was nothing in the least unacceptable about any of it.

It was a red-blooded exchange between two passionate performers whose characters caused them to reveal that passion in different ways.

In the white heat of the moment, Donald bares his teeth

and rages but, as his next few overs showed, he did not lose control of himself, he did not ball.

Atherton glared back at him a little like a comic trying to look stern.

It was a minor irritation and he was not going to let it scratch the surface. His passion was dedicated only to victory. He concerned himself not with the morals of not walking for that is old hat and no longer applied, but with the business of not getting out to the charged-up Donald – in which he was brilliantly successful.

When Stewart arrived, Atherton had taken his side much nearer to the ultimate goal of victory. He had scored runs when they were available, with skill and composure and without risk. He will not have been surprised by Stewart's familiar striding walk to the middle or the brisk, businesslike way he took guard and twiddled his bat.

He may have been concerned by Stewart's first stroke though a sweep at Paul Adams, but it went out of the middle of the bat for four. He will have raised his eyebrows in surprise and enjoyment at his first pull over midwicket of Donald. He will have been startled and faintly shocked by the three fours in Donald's next over but admiring of his captain's spirit.

and he will never have given a thought to his own approaching hundred.

Since he resigned the captaincy, Atherton has had time to think about and work on his batting which he never had when he was in charge. His batting, like his captaincy, is a no-risk operation.

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Atherton's monumental 185 in Johannesburg, South Africa are probably sick of the sight of him and this innings will rate as one of the finest of his career.

Certainly the "incident" on Sunday evening, when Atherton survived a gloved catch of Donald, did little to improve South Africa's appreciation of it. Afterwards, Atherton confirmed that although much of Donald's cussing was conducted in Afrikaans, the fast bowler was the first to share a beer with him afterwards.

He did not want for motivation – both he and Shaun Pollock would have been given the option to take the last Test of had South Africa won here – he knew he was unlikely to match the speed and ferocity of Sunday evening. It was not for want of trying and only Stewart can be said to have tamed him, though by then the writing was on the wall, whatever your language of preference.

Donald's consolation, if such a thing is possible after so stupendous an effort, was to take the wicket of Hussain in the first over after lunch. Opening the day's account with a handsome cover drive for four, Hussain appeared happy trotting along in

ed to take apart South Africa's firing attack. In one over from Donald three boundaries were taken as the blood, sweat and tears of Atherton's gritty effort was almost usurped by something a lot flashier.

"Personally I think it was important to win in that way," said Atherton, who fittingly hit the winning runs when he on-drove Pollock for three. "It will give us a lift for Headingley."

At that juncture Captain Bodd entered with his bat swishing as freely as a frisky stallion's tail. Opening his account with a swept four off Paul Adams, Stewart proceeded

FOR THE SAKE OF ENGLISH CRICKET, WHICH HAS NOT HAD A WIN IN A FIVE-MATCH SERIES FOR 12 YEARS, LET US HOPE HE IS RIGHT.

NATWEST TROPHY PREVIEW, PAGE 23



Alec Stewart holds out a congratulatory hand to Mike Atherton as they complete the winning run yesterday

David Ashdown

WICKET DOWN, from scoring the 139 runs needed to win on the final day.

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**Paying for the car**  
Sir: James Fluss (letter, 24 July) wonders why the motorist who doesn't use public transport should pay for someone else who does. Why should the non-motorist pay a high percentage of his/her taxes towards the ever-expanding road network, the cost of treating asthma and the many other conditions, not counting road "accidents", which are caused or exacerbated by traffic emissions or the cost of global warming? But we do.

Of course car transport has all the advantages Mr Fluss claims - for the individual. But for the rest of us, including motorists when they are not actually travelling, it is a disaster. Over the years as a non-car-user I have seen my freedom to move around steadily diminish as bus services to less popular destinations dwindle or take twice as long because one service has to serve too great an area, and cycling and walking become high-risk pursuits.

The blinkered self-centredness of motorists beggars belief.  
**M SIEED**  
Preston, Lancashire

Sir: I fear that at least 99 per cent of what David Aaronovitch writes about the need for coercion to get motorists out from behind the wheel is true (Review, 21 July). However, he himself is wrong about the impact of Manchester's Metrolink Tram System on car journeys. Nor was it "massively expensive" to build.

Metrolink was the conversion of two existing suburban railways to Altrincham and Bury respectively. The rolling stock used on both lines was all but life-expired, as was the power supply and transmission on the Bury line. All of this would have needed replacement, since the numbers of passengers being conveyed daily was substantial. Both lines, like all of the suburban rail network, were subsidised from the public purse.

Metrolink replaced both railway lines, threw in a cross-city link, and a spur to Manchester's Piccadilly Station. It operates entirely without public subsidy - and, for the record, it has reduced road journeys on the two road corridors it parallels (A56 north and south of Manchester) by approximately 10 per cent. The system loads to capacity during the peaks. It is, however, a classic illustration of the ability of a modern, fast, frequent rail service to reduce the growth in road traffic.

**PETER JOHNSTON**  
Chair 1986-9 Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority, Transport Network Committee, Bolton, Lancashire

Sir: Professor Hibbert (letter, 22 July), is possibly right in suggesting that the car and public transport policies now being proposed will give rise to increased taxes in 2003. Is there any other way of reducing the pollution breathed in by me and mine?

The market cannot provide supplies of unpolluted air to those individuals who can afford it. We all have the same pollution or purity. Low pollution is one of those goods which we can buy only through the tax system.

**WJ HYDE**  
Ofton, Kent

Sir: Kathleen Wood (letters, 22 July), like many before her, has got things backward in her complaints about motoring taxation on rural dwellers.

Schools, shops, jobs and so on, have shifted away from rural areas because fuel has traditionally been too cheap, not vice versa. This process has been compounded by the great majority of rural dwellers voting for a succession of governments who through their *laissez faire* planning policies and antipathy to public expenditure, have helped turn towns and villages into dormitories.

Very few people nowadays are forced to live in the countryside, and those that are often have low mileage because they work there too and do not commute miles five



Continuing our series on the Tyburn Nuns, marking their centenary, Mother John Baptist adjusts her cowl for choir practice. **Kalpesh Lathigra**

Like all photographs published in *The Independent*, this can be purchased by calling Independent Photographs on 0171-293 2534 (subject to availability)

times a week. The rest are welcome to come back and live in the towns and cities that they currently clog with their cars every day.

Alternatively, you can wait until rural shops and businesses, teleservices etc, start to reappear in smaller towns and villages as these once again become competitive with those dependent on car journeys for their trade. Isn't that what market forces are all about?

In the meantime, no whingeing please. You reap what you sow.

**M SHEARING**  
Hawtree, Essex

#### Forced marriages

Sir: Your assumption that the rise in visa entry applications on the basis of marriage by men from the Indian Sub-Continent, especially Pakistan, reflects an increase in forced marriages is nonsense (reports, 20, 21 July).

It is no surprise that following the abolition of the primary purpose rule, there has been a rise in applications, not because more women are being forced into marriage, but because the rule had operated in a racist way, denying family reunion to hundreds of people.

I also take issue with the final two paragraphs in your lead article (20 July), where I am quoted in a context set by the previous paragraph which states that "some women's groups say the increase of Pakistani men entering Britain using their wife as a sponsor reflects a failure by British officials in Islamabad to check if marriages are wanted or enforced". Then I am quoted as saying that "the British government could and should do more and their failure to act to help Asian women who are kidnapped and taken abroad to be married is basically racist".

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I was not saying that British officials assessing visa applications could or should be doing more; I was referring to the fact that the British government could and should be doing more to both prevent abductions and/or forced marriages in the UK and help track down and assist women kidnapped, abused and forced into marriage abroad.

**HANNA SIDDQUI**  
Southall Black Sisters  
Southall, Middlesex

#### Gay age of consent

Sir: Why do people argue they are protecting the innocent as a means of justifying an unfair disparity in the laws governing the age of consent? Whom do they think they are protecting? As a happy gay man (shock horror!) I felt in no need of "protection" when I was 16. I was far more frightened of the way I would be treated by others,

especially as then the age of consent between males was 21.

**KEVIN J BUTCHER**  
London NS

Sir: As a gay man who is getting married to my Danish boyfriend next year, I despair at the House of Lords vote. What an embarrassing display of homophobia, misinformation and intolerance.

I for one will be imploring OutRage! and Peter Thatchall to "out" all closet homosexual bishops and Lords who voted against this amendment. The knives are out and this is war.

**HARRY LEWIS**  
Windsor, Berkshire

Sir: I do not feel that the writer of your leading article ("No compromise on gay rights" 24 July) has his finger on the relevant pulse of public opinion.

Over the last few days, in public

bars and cattle markets, I have been impressed by the support given to the House of Lords for their opposition to yet another ill-conceived and ill-considered appendage to what must be treated as a sincere piece of proposed legislation, namely the Crime Bill.

From every stratum of society in this, admittedly, rural, and therefore ignored part of the country the opinion seems to be "Good for the Lords: let's keep them as they are".

**FREDRICK PROCOPE**  
Sunnington,  
North Yorkshire

#### Iraq sanctions

Sir: Patrick Cockburn reports (23 July) that the UN Humanitarian Co-ordinator for Iraq, Denis Halliday, has resigned because he believes that sanctions (despite the new expanded oil-for-food

deal) are causing untold suffering to 23 million Iraqis and should be ended.

This is welcome vindication for everyone who has campaigned for the ending of non-military sanctions against Iraq. It is also, we believe, vindication for those who, like ourselves, have gone one step further, and who have deliberately and openly broken sanctions by carrying medicines to Iraq without an export licence, thereby opening ourselves up to prosecution, and positively to imprisonment as a result.

Genuine humanitarians will join Denis Halliday in calling for the immediate lifting of economic sanctions and for a reversal of Robin Cook's far from ethical stance on this issue.

**MILAN RAI**  
**MARTIN THOMAS**  
**Voice in the Wilderness UK**  
London N2

Sir: The picture of the exploding Hackney tower block on your front page today (27 July) led to a Pavlovian response in my Northern Ireland mind, concerned over 30 years of seeing such pictures.

The two standard questions flashed before me and I can only answer one. Perhaps you can help. The first question, "Who was responsible this time?", has an obvious answer: "the architects".

The second question we always ask after such an atrocity is, "Have they accepted responsibility?". Has the architectural practice which condemned people to live in these monuments to architectural arrogance ever said "sorry" to the people whose lives they have blighted?

**URSULA OWEN**  
**Index on Censorship**  
London N9

Sir: "A Simple Solution for *Magus*" ("The worst 100 books of the century", 24 July) does a disservice to Woody Allen and John Fowles. What Woody reportedly said was that if he had to relive his life he would avoid the film of *The Magus*; quite different from avoiding the book.

**ROGER DOBSON**  
Oxford

Sir: Good to see James Brown

receive a favourable review for

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## PANDORA

YESTERDAY'S RESHUFFLE confirmed Pandora's prediction (13 July) that Tony Blair's chief of staff, Jonathan "Wallpaper" Powell, would become the most powerful man in Blair's inner circle. This follows Peter Mandelson's loss of influence (but gain of a "spending" ministry) after the Cronygate controversy. Jack Cunningham has been appointed Minister for the Cabinet Office and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, but will he assume the power that Mandelson would have had in his position? Not likely. Party insiders have told Pandora. Blair now trusts Powell more than any other single colleague or adviser. Despite some newspapers' hasty attempts to portray Cunningham as one of the Cabinet's "toughest" ministers, just a week ago he was seen as weak and likely to get the chop. Instead, he has been elevated to potentially one of the most powerful posts in the Cabinet. Cunningham will have a hard job convincing some that he is more than just "window dressing" for Blair's powerful chief of staff.

THE INVENTOR and businessman Kenneth Stanley has written a strident letter to Westminster politicians attacking both British farmers and MP's disdain for Britain's manufacturing industry. "In 40 years spent as an inventor on four industrial estates I've never seen an MP in a factory," Stanley claims. His Bournemouth-based company makes bonding fasteners and, he asserts modestly, "I'm in the invention business, a high-risk lifestyle for which I volunteered. I need all the cash I can get to expand my company. Contrary to what farmers believe I do not owe them a living in an industry for which they, too, volunteered." The name of his firm? Big Head.

AS HE hyps his new film, *Saving Private Ryan*, the director Steven Spielberg has told the media that he believes D-Day was the "pivot point" in the entire 20th century. Not so, according to the author and critic Milton Shulman (below), whose memoirs, *Marilyn, Hitler and Me*, have been enthusiastically reviewed. "Pearl Harbour was the pivot point. If America had not been drawn into the war when they were, the Germans might very possibly have won. There would have been no D-Day without Pearl Harbour." As for recent revelations about British plans to assassinate Hitler Shulman took an equally definitive view in his first book, *Defeat in the West*, published in 1947 but still in print. The Allies' victory, he asserted, was hastened by Hitler's insane military strategy. An assassination, followed by the Führer's replacement with saner military minds, would have lengthened the war.

PIVOTAL OR not, Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan* had a mas-

sive \$30m opening weekend in North America. This may have had something to do with the lethal heat driving Americans into their air-conditioned cinemas for the past nine weeks, breaking all-time summer box office records. However, even the hot weather wasn't enough to heat up *Godzilla*, which took only \$100,000 last weekend. Columbia TriStar announced, six weeks early, that the monster flick will go into video in November.

A NEW response has arrived from London Transport to our Anti-Rucksack on the Tube Campaign. In a faxed statement, a spokesman, Neil Byrne writes, "We have every sympathy for passengers who have suffered at the hands of errant rucksacks." So far, so good, but apparently that sympathy does not extend to doing anything about the problem. London Transport believes existing regulations that "prohibit passengers from causing an obstruction with their luggage, or placing it on seats" are sufficient. In fact, LT's statement takes an obstinate, mocking stance: "We are not in the business of legislating for common sense and courtesy. Where would such a campaign end - banning people with insufficient deodorant protection during the summer months or people with bad breath during the rush hour?" If LT cannot see the difference between sniffing something unpleasant and getting bashed in the face with 40lb of rucksack, then we seriously question whether the organisation has any common sense.

A new regulation, posted clearly throughout the Underground system, banning the wearing of rucksacks in crowds, is what we demand. The campaign continues.

HAVING RECEIVED kosher approval for its Sensodyne toothpaste from London's Beth Din rabbinical council, it seems that a company spokesman may have stuck his foot into his mouth. Speaking for the international health care group Stafford Miller, the spokesman told the *Jewish Chronicle*: "a large number of Jewish people suffer from sensitive teeth."

Is this the start of a burgeoning new ethnic toothpaste market?



GAY BASHING isn't just about aggressive young men setting about some lad of effeminate habits. It is also bishops discussing homosexuality at the Lambeth Conference. Consider what happened last week at this once-a-decade meeting of all the bishops of the Anglican Communion. The group charged with discussing sexuality refused to listen to a presentation by a party of lesbian, gay and bisexual Christians.

The gays and lesbians were told to go away with the words of one African bishop ringing in their ears. He asked why if they were discussing homosexuality, they were not also considering bestiality and child abuse. Indeed some of the African bishops maintain that homosexuality is a "white man's disease". That is why, if a presentation were to be allowed, it should include testimony from homosexuals who had been "healed".

Rejection, insult, belittlement, anger, are not these the attitudes that comprise homophobia, which is fear or hatred of homosexuals and homosexuality? Yes; but for the bishops there is something else to consider here which could hardly be more important for them - how the Bible should be interpreted. On the face of it the Bible classifies homosexuality as a sin. Only a few texts refer to same-sex relations, but those that do are hostile.

What the outraged bishops of Africa should have said is that homosexuality is the least of our problems, if it is a problem at all. Much more serious for us, they might have remarked, in the area of sexual relations is the rape crisis in South Africa, where one rape is committed somewhere in the country every 27 seconds, and the fact that Aids, mainly of heterosexual origin, is affecting whole populations. The conference organisers have

tried to keep the issue of sexuality as far down the agenda as they can. They prefer to push the main focus on to Third World debt. How easy. No bishop is going to oppose the cancellation of a poor country's borrowings. It gives delegates a chance to sound off about the imperfections of capitalism and the world trading order. No knotty theological issues are raised. Debating Third World debt is too easy a way to pass the time and look good.

They really have to come to terms with homosexuality. Do they want any longer to see banners held aloft by lesbian and gay Christians which state: "We're praying for an inclusive church." What a rebuke! Until last week's debate in the House of Lords, I didn't expect to have to say that clarification is even required about whether the Anglican Communion believes that homosexual people should have equality before the law. But some English bishops voted against equalising the age of consent for heterosexuals and homosexuals.

excitements we would all share, almost as if they were misbehaving on behalf of the rest of us.

So where on earth did TV types get the idea that those who work with books are amoral and libidinous? Most people in publishing have a notoriously low sex drive, many of them indulging only once a year at something called the Frankfurt Book Fair, a five-day event during which the town's famous Bahnhofstrasse is said to echo late at night to the sound of British publishers achieving their annual release.

Yet, over the years, the name of these people has been besmirched in a series of TV dramas. The grey goat of a seducer played by Frank Finlay in *A Bouquet of Barbed Wire* was an editor. A rather beautiful love-affair between two people in English offices - low-grade sexual harassment of junior staff, depraving fumbling at the Christmas party, late-night smogs at sales conferences and so on.

Occasionally, two well-known editors may become embroiled in a semi-public adulterous affair, whose

excitements we would all share, almost as if they were misbehaving on behalf of the rest of us.

Perhaps there is a wider moral here. In contemporary entertainment - novels, television series, newspaper exposés - the dull domestic history of our times is being rewritten as a wet dream of universal hedonism. In a desperate attempt to divert attention from their own inhibited, trammelled lives, writers and directors are presenting a fantasy of what might have been.

The fact is that, for the vast majority of people, sex is yesterday and tomorrow but rarely today; it is something that takes place in the next room beyond the hotel wall, to other, less tamed and domesticated people. Even if, by some accident, they find themselves in a Babylon of good times, it somehow passes them by. I speak with some authority here, having spent what became known as the Summer of Love in the throbbing centre of hippiedom, the Haight Ashbury district of San Francisco, remaining throughout a scrubbed, drug-free virgin.

Is it any wonder that, assailed by all these overheated fantasies, we

have become erotically obsessed, queuing in doctors' surgeries for the new erection pill, pumping our breasts with silicone, filling our newspapers with semi-pornographic crime reports, celebrity kiss-and-tell exclusives and stories about how smoking cigarettes reduces penis size?

As it happens, the truth about book publishing is that historically it has been propelled not by desire but by a peculiar form of exclusiveness, a snobbery that is partly social and partly intellectual, developed by people who are neither top-drawer types nor spectacularly bright. No group was more snootily self-contained and suspicious of outsiders than the hip young things who set up new groovy imprints during the Seventies.

It is possible, I suppose, that, while the rest of us assumed they were redefining our cultural heritage, energising a tired industry and redressing the gender imbalance of literary history, the Virago gang were in fact prancing about starkers in a north London sitting-room. Now that I have seen them on TV, I'm not sure I missed all that much.

## Publishers between clean sheets



TERENCE BLACKER

Where did TV types get the idea that those who work with books are amoral and libidinous?

LIKE MANY people, I was interested to hear that the distinguished history of the Virago publishing house was to be re-created in a TV docudrama. Ignoring my general rule of thumb for TV - if it is not football, Steve Coogan or *Spin City*, it is unlikely to be worth watching - I turned in to a programme called *Big Women*. Unfortunately, instead of finding a dramatic yet sober reconstruction of Carmen Callil and her feminist collective, I seemed to have blundered upon one of Channel 4's new porn extravaganzas. A circle of variously sized women were dancing about in the buff, yodeling native American love chants and thrusting themselves excitedly at the camera. I rang a fellow author to find out what had happened to the drama doc.

No mistake, he told me. This was in fact an early Virago editorial meeting. I've been in a state of mild shock ever since.

Could it really have been like that? I was working in book publishing at the time and, so far as I can remember, meetings were decorous, dull, clothed affairs at which even mild expletives caused

something of a frisson. If there was any erotic activity, it was of the furtive, shameful kind traditional in English offices - low-grade sexual harassment of junior staff, depraving fumbling at the Christmas party, late-night smogs at sales conferences and so on.

Occasionally, two well-known editors may become embroiled in a semi-public adulterous affair, whose

first step towards resolving the issue would not be difficult. That is to indicate what kinds of sexual behaviour should be condemned. The conference preparatory document entitled *Called to Full Humanity* provides a starting point. It says of promiscuity, adultery, prostitution, child pornography, active paedophilia, bestiality and sadomasochism that these forms of sexual expression are sins. This list can be applied to both heterosexual and homosexual behaviour: reading "adultery" as bestiality. Agreement should be fairly straightforward, though what is meant by promiscuity would have to be carefully stated. There are also defences of sadomasochism between consenting adults in private to be heard. Having defined behaviour of which the Anglican Communion disapproves, then it could turn to big questions. First, should a blessing be given to marriage service if you like, be provided for same-sex couples, who are neither promiscuous nor unfaithful? It is surely not good enough for the Church to say that celibacy is the only option for gay and lesbian persons. And second, should people who openly profess that they are gay or lesbian be ordained to the priesthood?

If the Anglican Communion answers yes to both questions then it would have interpreted the Bible in a way that is not strictly literal. Or perhaps the literal versions have been misunderstood. Richard Holloway, the Bishop of Edinburgh, points out in a recent pamphlet that one Jewish scholar has suggested that the injunction against men lying with men in Leviticus is a condemnation of the ancient habit among victorious troops of raping men as an assertion of their power over them - an outrage which also happened in Bosnia in the civil war

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of the mid 1990s. Likewise Uganda has 22 Christian martyrs who were killed in 1885 by their king because they refused to be sodomised by him. Actually, this limited interpretation is unlikely to appeal to a present day Ugandan bishop. The Bishop of Nyanza, Wilson Mutebi, He says: "Homosexuality is a sin, and any bishop who teaches otherwise is committing a sin. He must repent in order to be in communion with us. If he does not, we cannot be in the same church with him."

Thus the issue of homosexuality will put the famously elastic nature of the Anglican Communion to the test. It is constantly mocked as being a broad church, containing within it a range of views too wide for its own good. The last major upheaval was the departure of the Methodists centuries ago. The Anglican Communion exists as a compromise, as a middle way or third way, embracing both the insistence of the Protestant reformation on individual salvation, intense study of the Bible and evangelism and the Catholic tradition of a three-

fold ministry of bishop, priest and deacon and an emphasis upon personal holiness through self-discipline. It has no central authority; the resolutions of the Lambeth Conference have no binding force - the Archbishop of Canterbury is first among equals and not an Anglican Pope. Consensus is in its bones. Anglicanism is by nature intuitive and moderate. Cardinal Newman said that "every organisation seemed to start with a prophet and end up with a policeman". Actually the Church of England itself, the founding church of the Anglican Communion, began with a policeman (Henry VIII) and has never produced a prophet. That is why I think it will successfully come to terms with homosexuality as it has in the past decade come to terms with the question of women priests. The gay bashing of the 1998 Lambeth Conference will in time be seen as an aberration. After 2,000 years, the priesthood would at last be completely open - to men and women, heterosexuals and homosexuals alike.

future debt. The total debt of the developing countries is \$2 trillion, \$2 thousand billion. Let me just say to you that of the \$215 billion worth of debt, the World Bank has less than nine per cent. The International Monetary Fund has less than five per cent. Between 55 and 60 per cent of the debt comes from individual creditor countries. The United Kingdom, the United States, European countries have 55 per cent of the debt and the rest are banks and various assorted creditors.

Let us take the point in terms of this debt problem. We have said that we're prepared to bear our full share. And we've done it on the basis of a very simple proposition. If someone comes and says, "Jim, I'm in trouble. I've got all these debts and I can't send my kids to school and I can't do lots of things. Will you lend me or give me ten thousand dollars?" If the guy's a gambler or a womaniser or whatever or on drugs or has no sense of money the chances are you'll say, "Look, I'll try and do something for your kids, but until you improve your ways I'm surely not going to give you ten thou-

sand because it will just go out the window." Countries are the same. Corruption exists. Bad management exists. Inadequate assessment of social responsibilities exists. I have said on many occasions, if my owners who are the 180 countries want me to forgive debt at the World Bank which has a balance sheet of \$150 billion I can forgive only \$23 billion. Why? Because the only capital I have is \$23 billion. I have to borrow the other \$130 billion so I can repay the pension funds, the church commissioners, others who have invested. And governments depend on the earnings of the Bank and the repayment of debt for between 50 and 60 per cent of the funding of future international development programmes. Before you level your accusations, look at the economics.

I believe that our children will have a better chance of living in peace and prosperity if we work together. That is the reason I flew over. And I very much hope that you will recognise that I believe in God, that I care and that our objectives are the same.

## Homosexuality is neither a white man's disease nor a sin

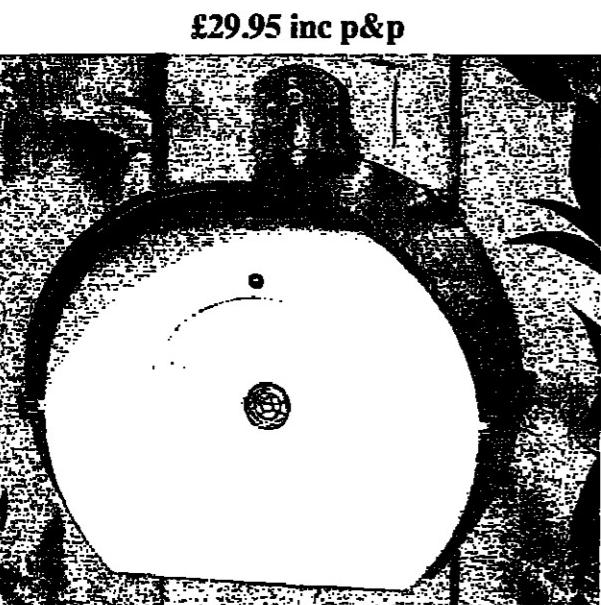


Bishops with a straight bat Ady Kerry/Kent News & Pictures

ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH  
Uganda has 22 Christian martyrs who were killed because they refused to be sodomised

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I'M UPSET. I'm upset because some people paint a picture of our institution which is quite simply wrong. I work with 10,000 people in the Bank who are committed to poverty eradication. We do not get up every morning and think what we can do to ruin the world. We have a problem of three hundred million people who do not have clean water. We have a problem of a billion and half people who do not have access to any form of housing. I have been to 83 countries. I do not go to the beaches as has been suggested. I go to the shums and I go to the villages. And I yield moral superiority to nobody. And nor do my people. My people care. We work to try to make the world a better place. And the characterisation of the World Bank as the epicentre of debt problems which create all the problems of the world is neither fair nor correct.

I spend an enormous amount of my time trying to convince governments that their responsibility to the poor of the world is not just a moral responsibility, but it is a responsibility to themselves in

terms of interdependence with a world which has 4.7 billion people in development out of the total of 5.6 billion.

We are losing the battle. I can tell you from my visits to over 80 countries harrowing stories. Stories that I have seen with my own eyes that have caused me to break down, not because I am a banker who has no feelings but because I care.

The highest item on our agenda on which we're putting \$3 billion is education and health. We are the leaders in education, in health care. No one talks about River Blindness. We've eradicated or nearly eradicated River Blindness in Africa for 30 million people. We have managed to clean up the water, kill the mosquitoes and restore people to arable land. We're the major fighter in the world against AIDS. We're the major fighter in the world against malaria. And we at the Bank this year will put \$1.8 billion into activities against poverty.

That is why I get anxious. That is why I sound defensive. I do not feel defensive. In the highly indebted countries the amount of debt is around \$215 billion on present data, that is today's value of the



## PODIUM

JIM WOLFENSOHN  
From a speech given by the President of the World Bank to the Lambeth Conference

sense of confrontation because I am doing many of the things that the church wishes to do and should do itself.

The debt issue is a very critical issue. There is no doubt that in many countries the payment of debt is a principal reason why social and other services could not be provided. In the highly indebted countries the amount of debt is around \$215 billion on present data, that is today's value of the

# Diana didn't want a garden



**ROY STRONG**  
*Virtually everything Diana epitomised is exactly the opposite of what is being proposed*

OVER A decade ago I found myself sitting next to Princess Diana's senior lady-in-waiting Anne Beckwith-Smith. Shortly before that encounter Rosemary Verey, who had designed and planted the Cottage Garden at Highgrove with Princess Diana in mind had said to me that sadly she had never met her. So, seizing my chance, I said to Anne, did she think she could persuade the Princess to pop out one day when Mrs Verey was at Highgrove and say how much she loved the garden she had made for her. Back came the reply: "The garden's his", with a heavy accent on the last word.

There is not one shred of evidence that Diana, Princess of Wales was ever interested in gardens, so over the last few months I have watched with increasing bewilderment the progress of the bizarre phenomenon of no less than 27 acres of Kensington Gardens being sacrificed in order to make a vast horticultural shrine in her honour. As a contributor to the Prince of Wales's wonderful garden at Highgrove and the author of a television series and a book on the history of the royal gardens, I feel that I am able to write with some authority on this subject.

What is clear is that someone has taken leave of their senses, flying in the face of every known historical fact, not to mention the overwhelming view of educated opinion. And why? Just to pander to the lowest form of emotionalism. In spite of the eccentric composition of the Diana Memorial Committee, members of it knew perfectly well that what Diana treasured was not the constraints, as she would have seen them, of a dignified formal garden, but the freedom and space which Kensington Gardens provides as it is.

Virtually everything she epitomised is exactly the opposite of what is being proposed. She would have hated the idea of a garden. She wouldn't have warmed to a shrine. She would have been appalled at the amount of money spent. Why the Committee didn't opt for what everyone assumed that they would, a hospital for children or a hospice for the sick, no one will ever know. Plonk a statue of her in the front of it if you must, so that those still suffering from mourning overdrive could lay flowers, but leave it at that.



Although now perpetually associated with flowers, Diana herself showed little interest in gardening

But no, that is not to be – and why? Diana dead is an icon to be hijacked, a caring and glamorous one which attracts a whole web of appeal running from single parent mothers to gossips to readers of magazines like *Vogue*.

Politically it is an astute one to colonise, and New Labour – from the moment, in the aftermath of her death, when the Prime Minister's press secretary, Alastair Campbell coined the phrase "People's Princess" – has done precisely that. They want to chain the People's Princess to their chariot wheels and what better means by which to do it than the garden?

The fact that it is an abdication of rationality seems to be neither here nor there. It doesn't seemingly matter also that 350,000 visitors are going to converge monthly on the shrine, log-jamming the already jammed streets in and around Kensington.

Who cares either that the water jet in the Round Pond will obliterate wildlife or the chances for little people to sail their model boats? Everything must sacrificed to provide a London Diana-experience parallel to that already launched at the Althorp estate.

achieved in the restored Privy Garden which is now giving pleasure to untold thousands of visitors. If a Diana garden has to be created it must be achieved without damage to what lies beneath.

But Kensington Gardens, on account of their central urban location, have become something quite other than Hampton Court, situated on the fringes of the metropolis. They are a *cherished lung* in a polluted cityscape. It is a space alive at all times of the year with walkers and joggers, those exercising the dog or pushing a pram. In the summer lunch-times picnic on the grass and it is in place where lovers daily in the sunshine.

Although the gardens began their life as a baroque magnificence, with allées radiating out from the palace, subjecting the surrounding terrain, over two centuries have negated that arrangement in favour of what, at first glance, is an informal landscape. Walkways in fact deliberately cut across the baroque axes

obviating them and strengthening the illusion that what is there is more akin to what the British love most, a Capability Brown park.

It has been said that the Prince of Wales may be involved in the design of the gardens, if unfortunately they do proceed with the plans. Perhaps he will be astute enough not to get involved in the brickbats which will fly on the sight of any scheme. Superb gardener as he is, the Prince of Wales will quickly realise that Kensington Gardens are not the ideal location for a variation on the intricacies of Highgrove with its elaborate topiary, serpentine flower beds and stumpery.

I might add that all questionnaires used to gauge opinion regarding the garden work from the premise that it is to happen, asking those who fill in the questionnaires to say how many flower beds they would like. I am glad to say many have told me that they have drawn a line across it and written in capitals "Stop the garden!"

So far the luckless public has been provided with nothing but the vaguest idea of what this £10 million folly will look like, let alone the cost of maintaining it in perpetuity. But the battle is not over; it has only just begun. Those struggling to stop this happening should not give up just because an arrogant government had adopted a mind set.

The Diana garden along with the Millennium Dome are sacred totems of their era designed to provide "the people", whoever they are, with a variation on the old bread and circuses theme. In their heart of hearts they must know that the garden is a cheap appeal to the lowest common denominator.

It will also put in place a permanent shrine for what in the long run will prove transitory, as new icons arise. Anyone with any knowledge of history will know that what is proposed as a memorial is far in excess of anything erected to honour our even two greatest queens, Elizabeth I and Victoria.

## RIGHT OF REPLY

JOHN GUINNESS



The Chairman of BNFL argues that the Sellafield nuclear power plant should remain open

THE INDEPENDENT advocates closing Sellafield as a "simple solution" to radioactive discharges. Such a radical step, dismissing 17,000 skilled jobs, billions of pounds of exports, and recycling valuable energy sources, deserves a more balanced appraisal.

Nuclear power provides some 25 per cent of British electricity, saving 35 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually – and helping to meet the Government's very demanding targets. Reprocessing at Sellafield supports that power. Reprocessing separates the "unburnt" parts (96 per cent uranium and one per cent plutonium) so they can be recycled. The waste is stabilised into solid blocks suitable for storage. One ton of plutonium, recycled as MoX fuel, has the energy equivalent of two million tons of coal.

There is worldwide demand for reprocessing, which is profitable. The skills involved are world-beaters: BNFL has won \$2.5bn (£1.6bn) of orders to clean up Cold War waste in America. Stopping reprocessing would also increase nuclear waste volumes – Britain's High Level Waste would increase fourfold if Sellafield closed.

Like all companies, indeed all human activities, BNFL has an environmental cost in our case, discharges. The issue is whether the benefit is worth the cost. And BNFL is doing everything it can to minimise discharges. An investment of £2bn has slashed them to about one per cent of peak levels.

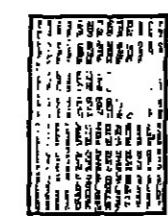
The most exposed individual living near Sellafield receives an annual radiation dose from marine discharges of 130 units: people in Cornwall receive over 7,000 units from natural sources. Closing Sellafield would make only a minuscule impact upon the radiation dose and cost billions that would be better spent on health, education and the environment.

## Names in search of a character

ANOTHER ILLUSION bites the dust. A friend with some experience of the totalitarian regimes of eastern Europe tells me that samizdat publishing, far from lifting writing in those wretched places, did it a good deal of harm. Rather than acting as a guarantee of serious, important work, samizdat published anything, however bad, so long as it contained a breath of dissent.

Then, when freedom finally came, and it was possible to write anything and have it published normally, things got worse instead of better. There was an intoxication with writing for its own sake: a narcissism not of subject, as in our own Hampstead Adultery Novel, but of style. That period is probably over by now, but in spite of the Global Village (another illusion), it takes different parts of the world a while to catch up with each other.

Herta Müller is a Romanian writer who lives in Berlin. The IMPAC prize



### TUESDAY BOOK

THE LAND OF GREEN PLUMS  
BY HERTA MÜLLER, TRANSLATED BY MICHAEL HOFMANN, GRANTA, £9.99

of £100,000, which her novel *The Land of Green Plums* has just won, is given from Dublin. But it is really American: all its judges but one (at least this year) are American or live in America. The sole exception is a Finn.

I don't want to say that Americans cannot judge European writing. Perhaps, quite properly, they feel humble before a kind of human suffering that they have been spared; and this may have influenced the judges' decision. But I do not doubt that it was primarily a literary judgement; it's just one with which I disagree.

This is a matter of taste, I admit. The bedrock of literary judgement always is. So let me describe this book as objectively as I can, then you can decide if your taste is closer to mine or to the judges'.

*The Land Of Green Plums* is a poetic novel, and closer to poetry than to the novel. It is written in short bursts of short paragraphs, at the very most 20 or so, and often no more than one. So it has the same stop-go tempo throughout. Its characters are all described poetically. For example, they have "the province in their faces". But they are hardly at all distinguished as individuals, in terms of their natures, thoughts or even appearances (except for their hair colour). Each time that Ernst, Georg or Kurt appeared, I had to check back to see who he was.

Tereza is perhaps the easiest to remember. At least she has a recognisable character, though not an attractive one (shallow, flighty, corrupt). Who Lola is, and why the narrator should mind when she dies (since she's even less appealing than Tereza) I don't know. I couldn't care about any of them.

But this is more a poem than a novel, and not always (to my taste, again) a good poem. If you like people's hearts being called "heart-beasts" (Hertzler was actually the title of the novel in German) then you will like this book. If you like the same image being sonorously evoked every time someone appears – the mothers all have illnesses, the narrator's father flagellated his war guilt in his



Herta Müller writes of Romania's German minority

"damn stupid plants" – then you will like this book.

There are constant references to barbers and nailclippers: these people must have the shortest nails and hair in the world. The nailclippers come to have a secret meaning in the code of the dissidents under the Ceausescu dictatorship, but I never did work out what all the barbers mean. The chorus of sacks, containing a belt, a window, a nut and a rope, represent the deaths of the narrator's friends: Lola by hanging (the belt), Georg by jumping (the window), Tereza by cancer (the nut, is a lump), Kurt by hanging again (the rope). I hope that this helps.

The most annoying thing of all is that every now and again you glimpse a riveting story, and someone who

could tell it. The encounters with the Securitate captain, Piele, are horribly believable. The details of the friends' hopeless jobs in hideous places, of their dissident activities (no more than reading a few forbidden books, as far as I could tell), of their coded letters and snatched conversations – all these are almost interesting. Their past is as evil as their present: they all belong to Romania's German minority, as their names suggest, and their fathers were SS officers during the war.

Herta Müller can write, and hers is a very terrible story. If she had only told it, instead of making fine phrases – now that would have been worth a prize.

CAROLE ANGIER



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### TUESDAY POEM

#### THE AFFIRMATIVE BY C H SISSON

The trick of sex, there is no doubt,  
First taught the animals to speak.

But Yes is not a word at all;  
The first word that they spoke was No.

All conversation still remains  
A gloss upon the negative.

For Yes could only hold its tongue;  
Its work is in another place.

Our poems this week come from C H Sisson's  
'Collected Poems' (Carcanet Press, £12.95).  
This poem first appeared in 'Metamorphoses' (1968)

# Lord Smith

RODNEY SMITH was a surgeon whose consummate skill and driving ambition took him to the pinnacle of his profession.

For his expertise in the most challenging aspects of abdominal surgery he was famous throughout the English-speaking world, while his conduct of the Presidency of the Royal College of Surgeons brought him the acclaim of the profession as well as a recognition of his leadership by both government and opposition.

Yet he possessed talents which would have enabled him to succeed in any career of his choice. In youth he was an accomplished violinist and had contemplated music as a profession; he stayed with surgery because, he was wont to remark, a surgeon could enjoy music as a relaxation but a musician could hardly undertake surgery as a hobby.

As a hard-working medical student he still found time to play cricket for the Surrey County Second XI and on a memorable occasion scored a double century at the Oval while preparing for the stiffer examinations. Golf came easily to him, chess was a fascinating contest, but bridge was a more serious business which brought him contact with the political world. He partnered Iain McLeod on occasions and Harold Lever regularly, playing for England and later for the House of Lords.

In retirement he took up painting with his customary success, maintaining at the same time his expertise in numismatics and opera. In all these fields he was driven by the urge to excel and although in public his ambition was decently cloaked, it was never entirely concealed.

His father, Dr Edwin Smith, was a south London coroner; his mother a professional violinist, and it is hardly surprising therefore that medicine and music engaged his early interests. He was educated at Westminster School, an experience which he greatly enjoyed, although he left early after a row with the headmaster about an intended performance at the Chelsea Music Festival. He crossed the river to St Thomas's for his medical training, conceiving there an admiration for Philip Michener, a forthright and plain-spoken surgeon whose impish sense of humour was to provide an endless source of anecdotes for later after-dinner speeches.

Smith qualified MB BS London in 1937 but the sudden death of his father prevented him from taking the unpaid resident posts at St Thomas's to which his student

achievements would have entitled him. Instead he took a salaried House Surgeoncy at a less prestigious hospital and went into a general practice in Wimbledon. He kept a contact with surgery at the local hospital however and after two years and at the minimum age he passed the examination for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons.

At this time he married Judy Rodwell by whom, after the Second World War, he was to have a family of three sons and one daughter. In 1939 he was appointed surgical registrar at the Middlesex Hospital, then staffed by an outstanding group of general surgeons. Senior amongst these was Sir Alfred, later Lord, Webb Johnson PRCS, who first impressed on him the prestige and the importance of the Royal College of Surgeons as something more than an examining body. From then on the college was to be the focus of his ambitions.

In 1941 he joined the RAMC and gained the MS London in uniform.

*He contemplated music as a profession but stayed with surgery because, he was wont to remark, a surgeon could enjoy music, but a musician could hardly undertake surgery as a hobby*

As a surgical specialist he served in North Africa, Yugoslavia and Italy, being wounded at Anzio. War surgery provided for him the indispensable practical experience required for the development of technical excellence in the operating theatre and shortly after demobilisation he was in 1946 appointed as Consultant Surgeon to St George's Hospital in London.

That well-known hospital at Hyde Park Corner was often regarded as the base from which to build a private practice in the most fashionable part of London but Smith made it the most famous centre in Britain for the treatment of major biliary and pancreatic disorders, with a reputation which rivalled that of his friend Dick Cattell in Boston.

He was a prolific author in books and surgical journals and a hard-working editor of multi-volume standard texts. His eight-volume *Operative Surgery* (1956-57), written and edited in co-operation with Charles Rob of St Mary's, was particularly successful.

Basic Medical Sciences, an enterprise run jointly by the College and London University, where he proved to be popular with both staff and students. The institute thrived under his administration. There could never be any doubt that he would become President but due to the death in office in 1973 of Edward Muir, he achieved that position earlier than expected.

Smith was an outstanding President, combining management skills with a proper regard for ceremonial and an agreeable affability on social occasions. He could of course be a hard task-master and intolerant of weakness or failure but his zeal in the promotion of the high status of the college, paralleling his own ambitions, was unfaltering. His influence on the profession was far-reaching, he had a wide circle of acquaintances but few intimate friends.

His position and his acknowledged technical prowess brought him numberless invitations to be guest professor or eponymous lecturer.

His popularity as a lecturer brought him many invitations to centres abroad and a spell as a Visiting Professor in Sydney gained him an Honorary Fellowship in the Royal Australasian College. Unhappily, married life in Wimbledon could not survive this whirl of activity and after a period of separation he was divorced in 1971, then marrying Susan Fry, who was to care for him in his later years.

The busy life of travel and practice did not divert him from his objective in the Royal College of Surgeons which he was determined to serve first in humble, later in the most prestigious, capacity. He gained the Jacksonian Prize in 1951; he delivered Hunterian Professorial Lectures in 1947 and 1952, and he took the post of Penrose May Tutor to organise clinical surgery courses for postgraduates.

In 1962 he was appointed to the Court of Examiners and in 1965 elected to the Council. He was asked to become Dean of the Institute of

tutor he received Gold Medals and no less than nine honorary fellowships, all of which he received with aplomb. (He and Lord Purrit were the only people ever to receive honorary fellowships from all the English-speaking Colleges of Surgeons - in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ireland, Australasia, Canada, South Africa, and the United States.)

In 1975 he was appointed KBE and was clearly marked out for a role in national affairs, but the state of the NHS soon brought serious problems for the profession. Barbara Castle, Minister of Health in the incoming Labour Government, harboured an ill-concealed dislike of doctors and was determined to create a whole-time salaried hospital service, eliminating the private beds in the NHS hospitals which Bevan had allowed in 1948 to secure the co-operation of the consultants.

The matter came to a head with a strike by hospital domestic staff unions aimed at ousting private practice from the NHS and the BMA reacted by calling for a work-to-rule by consultants. Smith and his fellow college presidents played an important part in defusing the crisis, not by overt political action nor by following Moran's example in Bevan's time of direct opposition to the BMA, but by behind-the-scenes diplomacy. Barbara Castle was in fact agreeably surprised by her meetings with the college presidents and quiet negotiation, in conjunction with Lord Goodman as mediator, ended the confrontation with a compromise on private beds and consultant contracts.

As Sir Rodney Smith he was reluctant to demit office as President (presidents had to step down after a maximum of three years) and had some support for continuation, but the college council decided that their constitution must be upheld and his successor was elected in 1977. In the following year however he took on the presidency of the Royal Society of Medicine, at that time in some turmoil, which he was able to resolve.

In 1978 he was elected a Life Peer as Lord Smith and was at first able to play an active part in the debates (as well as the bridge team) of the House of Lords. However in 1981 he suffered a severe stroke which rendered him partially paralysed and speechless although mentally little impaired. The recovery of his voice was a triumph of education and in a large measure due to the tireless attention of his second wife.

He was never to regain fluency



Smith painted by George Bruce

sufficient for participation in debate - though his spouse or medical matters in the House of Lords - but he was well able to compete at the bridge table or on the chess board and he spent increasingly rewarding time at his easel.

David Innes Williams

Rodney Smith, physician and surgeon, born London 10 May 1914; Surgeon RAMC 1941-45; appointed Surgeon St George's Hospital 1946; Penrose May Tutor in Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons 1957-63, Dean, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences 1966-71. Member, Court of Examiners 1963-69. Chairman 1969, Member of Council 1965-73. President of Council 1973-77; KBE 1975; created 1978 Baron Smith; married 1938 Judy Rodwell (three sons, one daughter; marriage dissolved 1971), 1971 Susan Fry; died London 1 July 1998.

## Tazio Secchiaroli

TAZIO SECCHIAROLI was the original "paparazzo".

In Fellini's *La Dolce Vita* (1960), he provided the model for Paparazzo (played by Walter Santesso), the photographer sidekick of Marcello Mastroianni as the journalist. And his tales and photographs provided the inspiration for several events in the film, including the "orgy scene", modelled on Secchiaroli's pictures of the striptease by Aicha Nana, and Anita Ekberg's frolic in the Trevi fountain, inspired by the almost identical photographs shot by Pierluigi Praturlon.

Back in the Fifties, favourable exchange rates attracted scores of American film productions to Rome's Cinecittà studios and Rome was known as "Hollywood on the Tiber". In those days, Secchiaroli belonged to a group of street photographers who made a living taking pictures of the American movie stars who lived in the Excelsior Hotel and hung out at the sidewalk cafes on the Via Veneto and the night-clubs nearby.

He and his colleagues, who included Pierluigi Praturlon, Elio Sorci, Sergio Spinelli, and a number of other "youngsters", created a new genre of news photography after they discovered that magazine editors would pay more for "action" photographs of the stars. Until then, magazines had used formal portraits or carefully staged photographs of shot under controlled conditions on the set. The Roman photographers changed all that by chasing the stars through Rome on their Lambrettas and Vespas, and by going to great lengths to capture them in awkward poses and compromising situations.

According to Secchiaroli, it all started by chance, "because the Americans brought their own photographers to the set. There was no work for us, so we had no choice but to try and get some shots on the fly, outside their hotels."

"We photographers were poor starving devils and they had it all; money, fame, and fancy hotels," Secchiaroli remembered, "so the doormen and porters in the big hotels gave us hot tips. You could call it the fellowship of the proletariat."

In reality, the Roman photographers often received tips from the press agents working for the studios or the stars, who realised that these photo reports were extremely



Secchiaroli (left) and Luciano Mellace, a photographer for Reuters, at work on a Lambretta in 1952

snapped a few quick shots of the actor Anthony Franciosa sitting with Ava Gardner inside the Brick Top night-club. Franciosa, at that time still married to the actress Shelley Winters, lunged at the photographers and caught one of them, but this time Secchiaroli got away unscathed.

Finally, on the way back to his nearby office, Secchiaroli discovered Anita Ekberg in the midst of a heated argument with her husband, Anthony Steel. Annoyed by the flashes, Steel helped his wife into a car and then attacked the photographers.

Several Italian magazines turned that night's happenings into a national event by devoting ample space to the photographs and detailed accounts of the three episodes.

Secchiaroli obtained his next big scoop the following November when, following up on a tip, he documented an impromptu striptease by the Turkish starlet Aicha Nana in the Ruggantino nightclub in Trastevere. A major scandal ensued after the publication of these pictures once it became apparent that the enthusiastic audience surrounding the young starlet consisted entirely of prominent members of the Roman aristocracy.

The photographs of Rome's extravagant nightlife greatly impressed Federico Fellini, who was beginning the preparation of his new film that was to include scenes of Rome's cafe society. Fellini met with Secchiaroli on numerous occasions and wanted to know everything about the photographers' work habits; he even demanded to be taken on several guided tours of their favourite haunts around the Via Veneto.

Fellini gave at least three different versions of how the name "Paparazzo" was chosen. Once he said the name recalled the name of a classmate called Paparazzi, another time he said it was the name of an electrician on the set of the film, on a third he said it was meant to bring to mind "a buzzing insect, hovering, darting, stinging". According to Ennio Flaiano, the co-author with Fellini of *La Dolce Vita*'s screenplay, the name belonged to an innkeeper called Paparazzo in a book by George Glassing, *By the Ionian Sea*.

Whatever its true origin, ever since, the term "paparazzo" has been synonymous with the pesky,

cunning photographers who pursue the rich and famous.

During the shooting of *La Dolce Vita*, Secchiaroli became a good friend of Fellini's, and henceforth, starting with *8½* in 1963, worked as his principal set photographer. He also worked for 30 years as the personal photographer for Marcello Mastroianni and Sophia Loren.

Although he only worked as a paparazzo for a brief period in his long career, Secchiaroli never reneged on his past. Last year, after the death of Princess Diana in a car crash in Paris with Dodi Fayed, while attempting to flee from a group of French photographers on motorcycles, he was shocked but defended the paparazzi who, he believed, were being unfairly accused of causing the fatal accident.

"In our day it was different. There was one, two or three of us on a hunt for pictures. Perhaps today there are too many. In my day we would have never reached this point. At the most there were small fistfights and skirmishes."

"I can't understand how someone could risk their life to flee from photographers," he said. "I don't see why people in the public eye should try to run away from paparazzi. At a certain point they should just let themselves be photographed and move on." He recalled how Marcello Mastroianni once wanted to be alone with Catherine Deneuve, so "He called me and I made five or six sets of photographs. That way all the newspapers had what they wanted and no one else bothered him."

After the deaths in recent years of Federico Fellini, his wife Giulietta Masina, and especially Marcello Mastroianni and other close friends, Secchiaroli became very depressed. Even though in Italy his photographs were well known and his work had been the subject of several academic dissertations, he never sought a place in the limelight. When he died he had just finished working on a book of his photographs, due to be published this September by the Italian publishing house Motta.

Wolfgang Achtnach

Tazio Secchiaroli, photographer; born Rome 26 November 1925; married (one son, one daughter); died Rome 24 July 1998.

## Bernard Sandler

**BERNARD SANDLER** was at the same time a pioneering businessman, an imaginative theatrical producer and supporter of innovative, fringe British theatre, a continual traveller around the world and a perceptive modern art collector.

At the root of all his activities was a keen and searching intellect, a curiosity about politics and the nature of justice, and, above all, great personal warmth – most evident in his characteristic assured smile.

He came from an exceptionally close-knit northern Jewish family. His father, Hyman, born in a small town in Latvia, came to Yorkshire in 1893, aged 17, to escape the inevitable call-up into the Tsar's brutalising army; within a few years he was manager of a leading clothing factory. Hyman and his female cousin went on to marry a sister and brother whose surname was Hurst. In the mid-1920s, the two couples formed their own clothing company, Hurst and Sandler – Bernard's mother, Celia, was a talented designer – which quickly blossomed.

In 1946, Bernard Sandler joined the company. By 1968, when it was sold to the giant firm United Drapery Stores, it employed over 800 people in five northern department stores and numerous shops.

During Bernard's teenage years, two extraordinary journeys abroad opened his eyes to stark mid-20th century realities, both to the injustices that abounded and the potential everywhere for human reconciliation and reconstruction. In 1937, he travelled with his father by train across Europe – and, most disturbingly, via Berlin – to the paternal family home in the small town of Ludza in Latvia. It was a return for the family to the Yiddish-speaking shtetl, to tea from a polished brass samovar and a feast of home-made bread, herrings, boiled fish, pickled cucumbers, cheeses and cakes, joyfully shared with his grandmother, uncles, aunts and cousins.

The menfolk attended the local synagogue in what Sandler recalled as "an atmosphere of wonderful warmth and affection". He also remembered the vibrant weekly horsefair and food stalls in the market square, to which the men, wearing high boots and caps, arrived by droshky (horse and cart). The family in Ludza were sceptical about moving to England, believing that in relatively prosperous, independent Latvia, there was less of a chance of war. Sandler's paternal grandmother, an aunt and two cousins survived the Second World War in Siberian exile; his two uncles died fighting in the Red Army; the rest of the family in Latvia perished in the Holocaust.



The West Yorkshire Playhouse, in Leeds; Sandler chaired the committee which oversaw its foundation

Photograph: Ross Parry

Two years later, Sandler embarked on another dramatic trip. After a tour of Quebec, Montreal and the Niagara Falls, the group of English schoolboys with whom he was holidaying arrived in New York – a day after war had been declared in Britain. Sandler had to stay on in America, living with an academic teaching couple whose radical, socialist views stirred him up and made him start questioning the status quo.

He later recalled, with ironical understatement, "living in New York was obviously so different from life in Leeds". Just before Christmas 1939, he went with two other Leeds Grammar School pupils to hear Louis Armstrong and his orchestra in a Broadway supper club. "Listening to the jazz, with its swings and improvisations, I understood the fusion of the Western and African worlds in America," he later said. "It was beautiful music."

Paying his way through a course at New York University by working as a shoe salesman and a Catskills hotel busboy, he met Taube Barash, a talented art student, whom he was to marry in 1945. Together they saw all the great theatrical stars perform on Broadway, listened to jazz in Greenwich Village clubs and were thrilled by the burgeoning modernist art world of 1940s New York.

After being drafted into the US Army in 1943, Sandler returned to Europe on

a convoy ship in September 1944. He was wounded fighting in Normandy, and sent to an American hospital in Britain where he was reunited with his family whom he had not seen for almost five years. In 1946, he and Taube settled in Leeds.

After the family business was sold in 1968, he moved to London and joined the Board of United Drapery Stores, where he headed the Alder's store group, and was a pioneer in establishing discount, out-of-town and airport duty-free shopping in Britain. He retired from UDS at the age of 53 in 1975.

His love of art – which he shared with his wife, who died in 1981 – brought him close friendships with painters such as Jacob Kramer in Leeds and Alfred Cohen in London, and he helped many artist friends build up their careers. He and his wife's shared passion for the theatre led him to become involved in the development of some key British theatres.

In the 1960s, he joined the Leeds Playhouse Trust Committee as its Chairman. Astonishingly, though the city councils in Nottingham and Sheffield had recently built new and costly theatres, Leeds City Council refused to co-operate – financially or in any other way – with a similar local venture. Working

closely with figures such as Alec Baron, who became the theatre administrator, and Leeds University architect Bill Haughton Evans, Sandler helped bring

the project to a successful conclusion, and Leeds Playhouse was duly opened in September 1970 with the production of Alan Plater's *Simon Says*; a late-night film section was opened by the silent film star Harold Lloyd. The theatre now thrives as the West Yorkshire Playhouse.

After retiring, Sandler devoted much time to supporting fringe theatres. He was Chairman of the Board of the Theatre Royal in Stratford East, London, and recently Chairman of the Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn, north London. An energetic theatre and film-goer, Sandler typically, he saw a number of films and plays each week – both in London and New York, where he spent part of each year, he was proud that the Tricycle was, as he described it, "a fringe theatre that had achieved economic stability, carrying on a programme of first-class productions". He was also an independent theatre producer – his West End successes including *Steaming*, *Pack of Lies* and *The Diary of Adriana Mole Aged 13 1/4* – and a director of the theatrical production company H.M. Tennent Ltd.

Philip Vann

**Carl Bernard Sandler**, businessman and theatre producer: born Leeds 18 October 1922; married 1945 Taube Barash (died 1981; one son, one daughter); died London 6 June 1998.

### EDUCATIONAL NOTES

JOHN BECK

## Unreal prospects and false dawns

THOSE WHO repeatedly urge a restoration of traditional Christian teaching and family values in modern Britain are destined to see only a succession of false dawns. Cultural restoration is no longer a realistic option as we move into a new millennium. Notwithstanding the recent success of traditionalists in derailing the Bill to equalise the age of consent for homosexuals and heterosexuals, the underlying project of restoring a nationwide consensus around so-called traditional values is unviable.

In part it is unattainable because, at least in the form that some like to imagine it, such a "better past" never really existed. Those who lament, in George Carey's words, "the loss of the sense of shared values that used to bind us together" recurrently exaggerate the extent of social and cultural integration in our national history. And the counterpart of this simplifying myth is an equally exaggerated view that today's young people have lost their moral bearings and are cast adrift on a sea of relativism.

Almost all commentators agree that the technologically advanced societies of both West and East are experiencing unprecedentedly radical and irreversible changes which do indeed have deep and inescapable implications for the way we live our lives. However, before we can develop an adequate educational response, we need to be clearer about both the nature and causes of this social transformation.

The intriguingly convergent work of the British social theorist Anthony Giddens and the German sociologist Ulrich Beck provide some useful signposts. It is important to appreciate that both these writers are critical of the fashionable view (which traditionalists are reacting against) that we now inhabit a postmodern world of almost unfettered social and cultural diversity, freed from any significant epistemological constraints or criteria of value. But these writers do contend that contemporary societies are in transition towards what Giddens calls "late" or "high" modernity.

According to this analysis, a key source of contemporary social change is precisely the continuing importance of rationality and the accumulation of expert knowledge. Even more significant is the fact that this knowledge is no longer confined within



Anthony Giddens: 'high' modernity

"expert" contexts. Rather, it "leaks" back into everyday life and becomes a basis for ongoing critical interrogation of previously taken-for-granted beliefs. In other words, knowledge has become reflexively organised. Proliferating sources of information promote increasing self-questioning and challenges to authority. A further and closely related consequence is "detraditionalisation". As Giddens has pointed out, this does not mean that tradition is dead: practices previously sanctioned by tradition may still be capable of justification – but, and this is the point, "only in the light of knowledge that is not itself authenticated by tradition".

The pace of change is further increased by the phenomena of "globalisation". This includes not only the familiar facts of global financial markets, transnational corporations, etc, but also the development of an increasingly cosmopolitan cultural sphere, including increasingly transnational communities of taste, lifestyle and belief.

Such radical developments pose a whole array of educational challenges – and no panaceas exist. However, it seems clear that worthwhile forms of moral and social education must respect cultural and value diversity, regard tolerance as more than a negative virtue, and employ methods of teaching and learning that involve dialogue while preserving a clear commitment to reason and evidential teaching.

John Beck is the author of *Morality and Citizenship in Education* (Cassell, £16.99).

## GAZETTE

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

#### DEATHS

**SYROP**, Kourad, OBE, on 25 July, aged 60, peacefully, at home, after a short illness. Husband of the late Sara, journalist, author and good friend. He was much loved and will be greatly missed by Helen and Roy, Mary and Dave, Barbara and Gerald, Alan and Alison, and his four sons and granddaughters. Private funeral, no flowers. Donations to Help the Aged.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR GAZETTE**  
**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS** (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Weddings, Anniversaries. In memoriam) are charged at 55p a line (VAT extra).

#### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh give a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace for delegates attending the Lambeth Conference. The Duke of York also attends. The Duke of Edinburgh, Master, attends the Quarterly Court Meeting and Lunch at Trinity House, London EC3. The Prince of Wales visits Cannon Farm and Sycamore Farm, Llanerch, Powys; opens a new building at Rachel's Dairy, Gian-yr-Afon Industrial Estate, Aberystwyth; and visits the ADAS Pwllpeiran Research Centre, Aberystwyth.

#### CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am; band provided by the Scots Guards.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Mr Graham Able, Master, Dulwich College, 51; Dr Baruch Blumberg, former Master of Balliol College, Oxford, 73; Professor Brian Clarkson, former Principal, University College of Swansea, 68; Professor Sir Frederick Crawford, Chairman, Criminal Cases Review Commission, 67; Professor Robert Curran, pathologist, 77; Sir Kenneth Durham, former chairman, Kingfisher, 74; Mr Alberto Fujimori, President of Peru, 60; Mr Ian Grant, Chairman, Scottish Tourist Board, 55; Mr Robert Henderson, former chairman, Ulster Television, 69; Mr Keith Hill MP, 55; Mr Gerald Hosker, former HM Procurator General, 65; Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns, Chief of the Air Staff, 59; Mr Brian Johnson, former chief constable, Lancashire, 66; Lord Russell of Liverpool, former MP, 66; Mr Ian McCaskill, television weatherman, 60; Mr Neil McKendrick, Master of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, 63; Dame Rosemary Murray, former Vice-Chancellor, Cambridge University, 85; Mr Ricardo Muti, conductor, 57; Sir David Naish, President, National Farmers' Union, 58; Mr David Pearson, former deputy chairman, Robert Fleming Holdings, 67; Judge Malcolm Potter, circuit judge, 66; Sir Barry Soares, cricketer, 62; Miss Prunella Scales, president, Women's League of Health and Beauty, 84; Mr Murray Stuart, chairman, Scottish Power, 65; Mr Phil Walker, editor, *Daily Star*, 54.

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Jacopo Sanzio, poet, 1456; Henry Glaphorthe, playwright, 1610; Ludwig Andreas Feuerbach, philosopher, 1804; Charles Lucas, cellist, organist, conductor and composer, 1808; John Stuart Blackie, classi-

cal scholar, 1809; Giulia Grisi, soprano, 1811; Henri-Joseph Harpignies, landscape painter, 1819; Gerard Manley Hopkins, poet, 1844; Helen Beatrix Potter, writer and illustrator, 1866; Marcel Duchamp, Surrealist painter, 1877; Marie Lohr, actress, 1890; Rudy (Hubert Prior) Vallee, singer, 1901; Professor Sir Karl Raimund Popper, philosopher, 1902; Clarence Malcolm Boden Lowry, novelist, 1909; John Thomson Stonehouse, former Postmaster General, 1925; Jacqueline Onassis (Jacqueline Lee Bouvier), publisher, and widow of President John Kennedy, 1927; Aristote Onassis, 1929.

Deaths: Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, Chancellor to King Henry VIII, executed 1540; John Speed, historian and cartographer, 1629; Savinien de Cyrano de Bergerac, poet and soldier, 1655; Abraham Cowley, poet, 1657; Antonio Lucio Vivaldi, priest, composed and violinist, 1741; Johann Sebastian Bach, composer, 1750; Georges Couthon, French revolutionary, executed 1794; Maximilien-François Marie-Isidore de Robespierre, French revolutionary leader, executed 1794; Edward Heath became leader of the Conservative Party, 1965; an earthquake took place in the Tangshan area of China, with more than 800,000 deaths, 1976.

Today is the Feast Day of St Botwod, Saints Nazarius and Celsus and St Samson of Dol.

#### LECTURES

National Gallery: Ghislaine Kenyon, "Music (iv): Valentine de Boulogne, *The Four Ages of Man*", 1pm.  
Victoria and Albert Museum: Jan Ross-Munro, "British Furniture Design @ 2pm".  
British Museum: Carolyn Perry, "Living in Egypt: ancient, Minoan and modern household objects", 11.30am.

#### LUNCHEONS

Association of Foreign Affairs Journalists  
The Israeli Ambassador, Mr Dror Zeigerman, was guest of honour at a lunch held

yesterday by the Association of Foreign Affairs Journalists at the National Liberal Club, London SW1. Mr Jonathan Fryer, President of the Association, was in the chair.

#### CHURCH APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments have been announced by the Church of England:

The Rev Paul Adamson, Team Vicar, North Tyne and Redesdale Team with special responsibility for Falstone, Thirlwall and Warkopsey, 10 weeks Development Course, Newcastle (same diocese); to be Rural Dean of Bellington (same diocese).

The Rev Stephen Coape, Vicar, Rushton with Boynton and Kilham (York): to be Rural Dean of Bridlington (same diocese).

The Rev Stephen Coape, Vicar, Rushton with Boynton and Kilham (York): to be Rural Dean of Bridlington (same diocese).

The Rev Bill Day, Rector, Greatworth with Empshott and Hawdley with Fritton, Dean (Farnham): to be Vicar, Titchfield and Poynton (Worcs).

The Rev Jonathan Palmer, Rector, South Elmham and Ickleshall, and Rural Dean of Beccles and South Elmham (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich): to be also Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St James, Bury St Edmunds (same diocese).

The Rev David Hodges, Vicar, Middleborough Ascension (York): to be also Rural Dean of Middlesbrough (same diocese).

The Rev David Lowe, Vicar, Leiston (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich): to be also Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St James, Bury St Edmunds (same diocese).

The Rev Arthur Middleton, Rector, Boldon (Durham): to be also Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral (same diocese).

Canon Nigel Stock, Team Reader, North Shields, and Rural Dean of Tyne and Wear (Newcastle): to be Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral (Durham).

The Rev Frank Whist, Vicar, Chester-le-Street (Durham): to be Honorary Canon of Chester (Chester).

The Rev April Richardson, Priest-in-Charge, Bishop Auckland (Durham): to be Honorary Canon of Durham (same diocese).

The Rev David Lovell, Vicar, Blackmoor (Gateshead): to be Vicar, Blackmoor (same diocese).

#### APPOINTMENTS

Mr Stuart Laing, to be British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam.  
Mr David Ridgway, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cuba.

Mr Norman John Rose and Mr Paul Richard Francis, to be Surveyor Members of the Lands Tribunal.

WHERE PROCEEDINGS between the same parties and involving the same cause of action had been commenced in the English court and the Austrian court before the Lugano Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters, set out in Schedule 3(c) to the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, had come into effect between the two states, the English court was not required by the Convention to stay proceedings against defendants domiciled in Austria.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of Austrian defendants to an action commenced in England, against a decision that the English court was not required to stay the proceedings against defendants domiciled in Austria. The English plaintiffs challenged the jurisdiction of the Austrian court. The judge held that the decision of the European Court of Justice in *Von Horn v Cinnamond* (Case C-162/95) (1997) All ER (EC) 913 should not be extended to a case such as the present. In *Von Horn* it had been held that the San Sebastian Convention, which was similarly worded to the Lugano Convention, applied to cases where proceedings in one contracting state had been brought before the coming into force of the Convention, and further proceedings involving the same cause and between the same parties had been brought in the other contracting state after it had come into force.

He held, further, that Article 54(1) of the Lugano Convention, which provided that the Convention should apply only to legal proceedings instituted after its entry into force in the state of origin, did not apply to the present case since all the proceedings had been instituted before the entry into force on 14 June 1996, against the Austrian defendants commenced proceedings in the Commercial Court of Vienna. Two of the defendants to those proceedings

Lord Justice Mummery said that Title IV of the Lugano Convention contained transitional provisions governing the transition in contracting states from the pre-Lugano Convention world to the post-Lugano Convention regime.

The purpose of Article 54 in the Lugano Convention was to place limitations on the application of the new regime to specified situations potentially affected by the process of legal transition, and the language of Article 54(1) expressly attributed legal significance in the context of the applicability of the Convention, to the time of commencement of legal proceedings.

In the present case there were no proceedings which had been instituted after the Convention had come into force to which the Convention could apply. The position contended for by the Austrian defendants could only be achieved by re-writing Article 54(1), depriving the reference to the time of institution of the proceedings of all significance, to the time of commencement of legal proceedings.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

### WORDS

WILLIAM HARTSTON  
chocolate, n.

have had no connection with cacao, but to be a radical word of the Nahuatl language.

The Europeans, in their usual muddled way, con-

In the second part of our series, Diana Appleyard offers more ideas for days out

# School's out - and the fun begins for parents



Elaine Hunter's children enjoy playing in their large back garden - but they also have regular days out to theme parks and activity centres John Lawrence

## YOUNG CHILDREN

"ONE OF the best things about having a pre-school child," says Elaine Hunter from Aylesbury; a mother of three, "is that their nurseries carry on throughout the summer."

For two days a week, two-year-old Olivia continues to attend her Cuddles Club nursery - leaving Elaine with her two sons, five-year-old Alex and seven-year-old George. She says: "We have a big trampoline in the back garden and a quad bike they love - and I find I can get some work done at home with Olivia out of the way. Since she works from home, Elaine employs a local teenager for a couple of hours a day to mind the children.

The aim is to take all of the children out at least one day a week with her husband Andy, who runs the farm. "The children love all the usual theme parks and activity centres," says Elaine. "Legoland is a great favourite, as is the Cotswold Wildlife Park." But with three children and lunch to pay for, it is not a cheap option.

"A day out can easily cost £100," she says. "The rest of the week they'll be playing at home."

The children have a large back garden and all the acres of the farm to play in. Elaine has also organised for George to spend one week at the Camp Adventure at The Springs leisure centre in nearby Princes Risborough. She says with activities such as football and swimming, it is a bargain at £9 per day. Elaine says, "My aim is to give them all some individual time this holidays - and I'm keen to keep up their reading and writing. We'll be spending at least an hour every day doing 'schoolwork', because I don't want them to fall behind. By the end of the holiday I'll be on my knees. But I do

want to think they've had a really good time - and not just spent the entire holiday in front of the TV."

**DAYS OUT**

- Dinosaur Museum, Dorchester, Dorset. Great for a wet day on holiday. Life-size reconstructions of dinosaurs, CD-rom displays and audio-visual demonstrations. Open all year. Adults £3.50, children (4-16) £2.25, family ticket £9.95.

- National Marine Aquarium, Plymouth. Take a journey through the oceans, touch pools and Caribbean reef, complete with sharks. Adults £6.50, children (5-18) £2.75, family ticket £15.50.

- Legoland, Windsor. Rides and interactive computer attractions. Adults £16, children (3-15) £13.

- Bekonscot Model Village, Buckinghamshire. Oldest model village in the world. Ideal for under-12s. Adults £3.60, children £1.80, family ticket £10.

- Cotswold Wildlife Park. Wonderful zoo; be prepared to walk a fair way. Adults £5.50, children £3.50.

- Drusillas Park, Alfriston, East Sussex. Lovely zoo for small children. Adults £6.35, children £3.25.

- Thorpe Park Chertsey, Surrey. Another popular theme park. Again, this is pricey. Adults £16.50, children under 14, £13. Plan Ahead Super Saver, £12.50 per person for groups of 4-11 (ring 0990 880880, 24 hours in advance of your visit).

- Natural History Museum, London. New Earth Gallery, open from July 16. Adults £8, children (5-17) £3, family ticket (two adults and up to four children) £16.

- Cadbury's World, Birmingham. Chocolate-lovers' paradise. Adults £6.25, children (4-15) £4.50, family ticket £18.60. Advance bookings only. 0121 451 4159.

- Alton Towers. Adults £19.50.

children £15.50, family ticket £59. Special themed Beatrix Potter area for young children new this year.

■ Eureka! Museum for Children. One of the top interactive science museums. Adults £5.25, children (3-12) £4.25, family ticket (2+2) £16.95.

■ Knowsley Safari Park, Merseyside. £12 per car.

■ The Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, Powys. Most suitable for children aged six and over. Children's theatre, workshops and planetary journeys. Adults £5.50, children (5-18) £2.75, family ticket £15.50.

■ St Andrews Sea Life Centre, Scotland. More than 30 spectacular marine habitats including a seal display. Adults £4.35, children (4-15) £3.35.

## SPORTY CHILDREN

Jenny Webster has booked her two children - 10-year-old Katie and nine-year-old Tom - into tennis camp. "Katie is already quite a strong player and Tom is getting quite good," says Jenny, who works part-time as a theatre nurse at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, near their Great Haseley home. "Neither of them particularly wants me to work during the summer, but I want to keep up the continuity of my job," says Jenny. On the days she is working, she makes elaborate plans including driving to Leamington Spa the night before to deliver the children to her mother, and then making a two-hour round trip to pick them up.

"They both have bikes but I won't let them ride round the village on their own," she says. "It isn't safe." Katie, she says, is far easier to keep than Tom - she will play music, walk the dog, read and do the

crossword; Tom has to be organised or he will slump in front of TV.

"What the holidays will mean is that I spend hours ferrying them around in the car to see friends, to go shopping, to get to their tennis lessons," she says. "I become a one-woman taxi service."

**SPORT**

A number of private schools run sporting courses over the summer - see local press for details. Leisure centres are a good source of cheap sports-based courses and workshops, from trampolining to soccer. The Football Association (0171-262 4542).

The Lawn Tennis Association (0171-381 7000).

The England and Wales Cricketing Board (0171-432 1200).

UK Athletics '98 (0121-440 5000).

## TEENAGERS

Older teenagers should be easy to look after in the holidays? Not necessarily so, says Chrissie Hackett-Joseph, who lives in London with her three children - 17-year-old Tobias, 15-year-old Dominic and 13-year-old Charlotte.

"I became a catering service," she says. "Dominic is the worst culprit, in that I'm always coming home and finding my house full of teenage boys. I don't mind cooking for them all if I'm not too tired, but sometimes it can be a bit of a trial."

Chrissie basically runs a hotel in the holidays. Tobias, her oldest, has secured himself a job coaching football at nearby Crystal Palace. Dominic will be in and out with his friends, playing football, swimming at the local Lido and running at the nearby track - he is a member of Belgrave Harriers.

Both boys will leave notes, or ring

to say what time they are coming home, whether they need a packed lunch or how many friends they are planning to bring back with them for tea.

"Really, Charlotte is the only one I have to think about," Chrissie says. "but even she has reached the age when she'd far rather be with her friends than with me. I would actually like to go out and about with her this summer but she'd far rather be shopping in the West End with her friends. I feel as if my children don't need me at all this summer."

## TEENAGERS (LONDON)

Most teenagers have a clear idea of what they want to do in the holidays. In the capital they are spoilt for choice.

One of the best sources of information is *Kids Out* family events magazine. It costs £1.75, and lists literally hundreds of things to do with children in the holidays. It is available from all good newsagents in London and the South-east and published by Time Out. It was first published in 1982.

■ St Andrews Sea Life Centre, Scotland. More than 30 spectacular marine habitats including a seal display. Adults £4.35, children (4-15) £3.35.

■ Playstation Skate Park, Ackland Road, W10 0181 969 4669.

This is a good place to hang out and in-line skate or ride a skateboard and eat burgers. £4 for four-hour session.

■ Space Rollercoaster Simulator, Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 0171-938 8000.

■ Namco Station, County Hall, Westminster, Bridge Road, London SE1 (0171-967 8000). The fastest dodgems in Europe.

■ Cyberia, 39 Whitfield Street, W1. Café and Internet. £4.80 for an hour (0171-681 4200).

Both boys will leave notes, or ring

# Name the guilty staff in the NHS

Patients in hospital like staff to get their names right - but which name do you use? By Anita Chaudhuri

A STAY in an NHS hospital can sometimes be like a bad package holiday. First there is the nail-bitingly long wait before you get to check in. Then, once you are installed, there is nothing much to do except sit back and moan about the awful food. Finally, when you get home, you can't resist complaining to all your friends about how the conditions were not quite to your liking.

A Labour peer, Lord

Stodart, recently discharged from an NHS establishment, is certainly complaining, and not just to his nearest and dearest, either. He has written to the Health Minister, Baroness Jay, to protest, not about the food or waiting lists, but about NHS staff addressing him by his first name. He is now calling for this familiarity to be outlawed. Apparently, the former Spokesman for Energy in the Lords was appalled when nurses addressed him not as Right Honourable, or "mister", but as plain old David.

He has a point. The way we are addressed has an emotional resonance, particularly when, as hospital patients, we are at our most vulnerable. Calling someone by their first name implies a degree of intimacy, which is not always desirable.

No matter how many episodes of *ER* you have drooled over, when reality bites and you are trapped in your dodgiest pyjamas, wired up to an IV drip, you do not necessarily want to be on first-name terms with those in charge of your treatment.

"I don't mind nurses calling me by my first name," says Jill, who has recently spent several weeks in hospital during a problematic pregnancy. "You are lying there unable to get out of bed, the nurses are seeing the most intimate parts of you, so you feel close to them. But I didn't like it when a junior doctor came round and said 'Hello Jill, I'm Derek. That felt really weird, as if we were

at a drinks party."

For patients on mixed-sex wards, where privacy is under even greater siege, the problem can be more acute. "I preferred to be called Mrs Doyle," said one recent patient in such a ward. "It put up some kind of barrier between me and the hospital world, and I liked that. I already felt that by being there and having the treatment, my whole self was being invaded by them. I wanted to hold on to something that was my own."

At the moment, it is up to individual hospitals to come up with their own policy on the problem. Many have formal guidelines stating that staff should find out the

preferred form of address when a patient arrives and log it on their admission form. Others just leave it up to the individual, and that is when confusion can arise.

"Calling someone by their first name implies that you regard them with a certain amount of affection," says Dan, a doctor who recently spent time as a patient. "If you're addressed by your first name straightaway, it takes all meaning away from it. Personally, I would prefer to develop a certain rapport with the person."

As a patient, Dan found himself on the receiving end



Old-fashioned formality on the ward Hulton Getty

of NHS name-calling. "The surgeon addressed me as Doctor, the nurse called me Daniel, and to the paper boy doing his rounds I was simply Danny. To make an official policy about how each of these people should address me would be rather silly."

Andrew MacCallum, deputy director of nursing at Guy's and St Thomas's Hospital in London, agrees that there are problems:

"People have high expectations of hospitals to treat them differently from other areas of society. Our staff are trained to use a patient's full name until they discover what name would be appropriate. But in many cases, we don't use a person's title because that, in itself, can cause embarrassment. In maternity services, for example, a woman may not welcome drawing attention to the fact that she is a 'miss'."

Elderly patients tend to be most sensitive about being called by their correct title. "We always try to establish how they would like to be addressed when they're admitted," says Sarah Mullally, director of nursing and quality at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. "It doesn't sound important, but it has an impact on them being treated with respect and dignity."

## REVELATIONS

ROB NEWMAN, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUMMER 1982

# Sowing the seed of panic in my summer of love

I HAD to wait until the age of 19 before I lost my virginity, which was quite late, but I lived in a dream world, going for long runs and exploring literature. Being incredibly shy with girls was made worse because I went to an all-boys' comprehensive school.

Not that I wasn't hopeful - during cub scout bob-a-job week I went to this beautiful blonde woman's house. She wanted me to clean out her freezer, but asked: "Can you come back tomorrow when my husband isn't here?" I thought: "Oh, my God!" When I arrived the next day, hair brushed and parted, nothing. She just pointed me to the garage and the blood-soaked freezer.

Living in a village where the last bus went at quarter to seven put a crimp in my romantic adventures.

but villages can be flirty places. Everybody makes eye contact because they expect to run into friends. Just walking past an attractive girl was like swallowing a jar of hormone tablets. I remember, as if it were yesterday, a sunny, windy day on Hitchin High Street and this woman's dress was blowing up. But just as I was about to feast my eyes on her knickers, a lorry came down the road and blocked my view. To this day, I still feel cheated and bear a grievance against truck drivers - I never let them out into traffic.

I found buying my first condoms an erotic experience. I felt a wave of affection for the woman who sold me them - she seemed to be congratulating me on finding the courage. Fortunately, my girlfriend was very patient, and a really lovely person,

because the first two attempts were embarrassing failures. We finally had another opportunity, round at my house, while my parents were out. I remember sitting on the doorstep waiting for her, wearing a pair of nylon running shorts and the Durex already put on!

I don't think it was special for her, because it was all over in moments, but afterwards, my brain was blown away. If someone had taken me apart and put my body back in a different way I wouldn't have been at all surprised. The effect of making love was so powerful: there should have been a sign saying: welcome to the sexual hysteria that will accompany you for the rest of your life.

We went for a walk afterwards, still in a complete daze, and I thought I would go mad if I didn't first rub my hand on the bark of this tree and then immerse it in dry mud. It was like a panic attack. My girlfriend stamped off down the hill shouting something from that personal filing cabinet that men know nothing about. She said: "Men have to take everything so seriously. It's like when my dad plays badminton." That analogy didn't work for me, as you don't have existential crises after a game of badminton.

Occasionally, sex is still transcendental, but not often. I'm more likely to get my jollies from a nice walk in the countryside. I believe in those epiphanic moments, but I can never get them to set. Within two or three days, it's back to normal. Not that I wanted the moment after I first made love to last for ever, because I was frightened I was going mental. It still happens sometimes when I go on holiday, like Victorian women who had swooning attacks in Paris because of all the newness. I usually have to return home early, because I'm not happy until I've got ketchup, baked beans and familiar smells.

I'm a beacon of stability to all my friends: I'll always be this steady person sailing a middle course unfurled by everything around me - not! However, in the last two years I've been up and down less. Perhaps writing the book and being forced to stretch my threads out on the loom has made me more integrated. I read interviews about people who seem to really understand their lives, but mine is doors opening and closing, traffic lights, people moving around, these are my shoes... There is no coherent, connected picture. However, through writing I've discovered I have been noticing things, so the black box has recorded something.

Although I stopped doing stand-up for two years, I don't think returning to comedy will unbalance me - cut to the sanatorium and me being wheeled to my next gig in a bath chair. Seriously, I have never enjoyed my stand-up more. Having to communicate with an audience also reminds me into the part of my personality where the sanity lies. It has cheered me up a lot.

So, how did that summer change my life? I discovered that I have an incredible facility for going through life and learning absolutely nothing. As my mum used to say, I'm as stupid as the day I was born.

INTERVIEW BY ANDREW G MARSHALL

Rob Newman is at the Edinburgh Festival from 11 to 30 August, at the Assembly Rooms. His book 'Manners' is published on 24 September



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# Mother, I hardly knew you

**When Alzheimer's first struck her mother, for Elisa Seagrave it seemed only the latest of her escapes from parental responsibility. Then she discovered her mother's diaries, written as a young woman**

I went to see my mother two days before her 84th birthday. She did not look at me. Her eyes were cast down and her mouth, without teeth, was set in an "O". Her skin was stretched tightly over her face, accentuating her high cheekbones, which once helped her to pass as a Russian on one of her trips to Moscow. She was delighted. I think she is almost blind, but she cannot tell us.

Someone told me that there may soon be a remedy for Alzheimer's disease. The thought of my mother regaining her wits is as frightening to me as that scene in *Fatal Attraction* when the deranged drowned woman suddenly springs out of the bath, alive and capable of doing more harm.

Before she got Alzheimer's, my mother was an alcoholic. She broke her hip twice and her arm once, falling. Soon after the second hip break, I got cancer. My children were still small and I was about to get divorced. My mother was supposed to help me, but it turned out the other way round.

When I was five, I had a fantasy that my mother was a little girl of my own age. I longed for that little girl to be my playmate. (I had no sisters, only brothers.) Now I see that my mother was a little girl, all her life. Emotionally, she never grew up.

When I was a teenager, she would even ask my grandmother why I couldn't look after my younger brothers, instead of her.

She nearly did not come to my wedding party, because of a cold. Everyone was asking: "Where's your mother?"

When I had my first baby, my mother was abroad - for four weeks. When my second baby was christened, my mother could not find our flat and went home without going to the church.

For someone who was already an escapist, Alzheimer's was my mother's ultimate escape. Now I would never be able to challenge her. She was for ever out of my reach.

Last summer she moved into a bungalow, to be looked after by professional carers. Her house, where

she had lived for 40 years, had to be sorted out and sold. I resented my mother for once again having evaded her responsibilities, and for the time it took me to sort out her house and the various legal problems. I disapproved of her hoarding. Why had she not given away some of her possessions, as my grandmother had done? Even in old age, my mother had been ordering toys and china animals from catalogues, when her house was already full. It was ridiculous.

Then I came across the diaries. I knew vaguely that my mother had written some diaries, but I had no idea there were so many.

It turned out that, like me, my mother had been writing diaries most of her life. I had a filing cabinet full of my own typed or printed-out diaries; my mother had three boxes of exercise books, in her very difficult handwriting. Having been brought up almost as an only child - her little brother had died when she was five - my mother had been secretive and possessive.

I began to read snippets of the diaries every now and then. One section, written, unlike the rest, on separate sheets of writing paper, described her visit to our American cousins in 1936, the year of the Abdication crisis, when she was 22.

These pages were for some reason in a box of possessions belonging to my little brother, who had drowned at the age of five.

Of course, I was all too aware of my mother's personal tragedies, some of which I shared - the death of her father in France in 1917 when she was three, the death of her own little brother - he had a neurological condition and never learnt to sit up - and the subsequent deaths of two of her sons, the second when he was 24.

It seemed poignant that in this box of her beloved little boy's toys was her own diary of that earlier trip to America, in which she described how her friend's brother Fife had asked her to marry him. In those days my mother had been a cheerful, optimistic young woman. How much happier she might have been if she had married Fife and settled

in the US, where she was surrounded by her loving American cousins. She and my father had been unsuited to each other. Exhausted by four years on the North Atlantic commanding destroyers, he had died in the mid-Sixties, of cirrhosis of the liver.

Even more fascinating were my mother's diaries of 1937 and 1938. In 1938, the year before the Second World War, she had driven to Eastern Europe in a Ford V8 with a young friend. They had travelled as far as the north-east corner of Romania, from where, on the Romanian side of the river Dniestr, they could see Soviet Russia.

My mother, a romantic, had

written: "All my life I have dreamed of seeing Russia but somehow I never thought I would do it." (In fact, she subsequently visited Russia many times.)

I was fascinated by the details my mother had recorded. She wrote about how her Hungarian friends had played a card game in which the coveted card was called "Mussolini", how in the Saxon town of Bistrita, in "Dracula" country, the children, in that summer of 1938, were saying: "Heil Hitler", how, at Dragomirna monastery - my mother described the church tower shaped like a harebell - a Russian abbot who had fled from the Russian Revolution had put his spoon

into the jar of quince jam, then licked it, and put it back for more.

I looked at the amateur films my mother had made of those villages in Hungary and Romania - a gypsy wedding, oxen pulling carts. I thought of the masses of photographs she had taken, all carefully labelled and catalogued, of us children, as well as of her own travels. She could have been a travel writer, an interpreter or a documentary film maker.

But she had lacked the confidence and the outlets. Her isolation and the inability to get over her personal tragedies meant that her talents had never been expressed in the outside world.

I recalled how, aged nine, I had been strumming tunes from my mother's American song-book on the piano. My father had strode in and told me to stop. My mother had defended me. She had understood that, like her, my imagination had been caught by the sad, sentimental songs - "Swanee River", "Poor Old Joe", and so on - from the American South.

I looked at another diary, from the first years of her marriage, when my father had been working in Spain. Then they had been very happy. I was surprised to read how my mother described me, aged two, as her "little love". I had always thought she preferred my brother.

The last time I went to see my mother she seemed delighted to see me. Her carer said that she was having a good day and had been repeating the name of her favourite American cousin, who is 92. My mother had, apparently, been saying all day: "Let's go to America!"

I found that, because of the diaries, I had almost forgiven her. Inadvertently perhaps, she has given me that legacy. I, unlike her, am a professional writer.

Without either of us realising it at the time, my mother was standing behind me all my life. Unable to help herself, my mother waited in the wings, urging me, her daughter, into the spotlight.



Elisa Seagrave with her mother's notebooks: "I found that because of the diaries I had almost forgiven her"

Andrew Buurman

## EXTRACTS FROM OUR AMERICAN DIARIES



FROM MY mother's American diary of 1936, the year of the Abdication crisis. She was 22. She was visiting cousins, and a schoolfriend's family

**October 1936, Virginia**  
Great excitement in the paper as usual about Mrs Simpson saying that King had said he would be married before the spring and talking about her divorce and how the Lloyds rates on the Coronation not taking place in May had risen from £5 to £25. Every paper has a leading article

on Mrs Simpson every day. America still feels like a colony of England, they always talk about the King meaning the King of England and almost say "Our King". I find everywhere the feeling that England is still the Mother Country.

Maryland, a few days later After lunch Fife insisted on taking me for a walk. Walking back through the cornfield, he suddenly told me he was so much in love with me that it drove him crazy and that he's never felt like that about anyone

before although he's had lots of affairs. He asked me to marry him. I didn't know how I felt at all but he looked so attractive and was so perfectly sweet.

Elisa travelled round America on the Greyhound Bus with an Englishman, M, six years older than her, who was collecting underground newspapers. Unlike her mother's American beau, he did not propose to her. They ended their trip in a hotel near the New York City Greyhound Bus Terminal, off 42nd street.

**February 1970, New York**  
I went to see an avant-garde film. I went to the Lincoln Centre to see a musical - Dita (my American cousin, five when my mother was in America in 1936) had given me the ticket. Afterwards I sat for a few moments by the fountain outside. It was lit up, so the water was green and red. Above the sky was completely black. I took out a pencil and wrote on my programme. "I love you. I meant to say it before. Please, please don't leave me."

I will admit that as far as objects of desire go, they do not come much more obscure than the humble radiator key. It does not even really qualify as a key. It is just a little quadrangular wrench that, so far as I am able to discover, does not fit anything but radiators. It is a tool that does one job, and a seasonal one at that: it enables you to bleed the air out of your radiator by loosening the little recessed nut on the unit's right flank. Even "tool" is too grand a title. It is really just a knob that does not stay on, one of those things that spends more time missing than found. It should be right there in the bowl with the pestles, pincers and fuzzy breath mints, but it is not.

Like most people, I have more than one. A cursory search through all the usual drawers and jars turned up no fewer than three, which by my rule of proportional object displacement means there are at least three more that I cannot find. Two of

## JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

7. THE RADIATOR KEY  
BY TIM DOWLING



these keys are identical die-cast aluminium affairs, but the one I always use for bleeding is brass, with nice round grip-holes, a large, mouse-ear handle and two bleed-faster stripes cut round the tapered barrel. I have no idea where I got it, but it obviously dates from an era when even the most marginally utilitarian object was of some style. While I could hardly get away with saying it outperforms plainer keys, it has a satisfying weight, and it makes a nice sort of blockish talisman.

Bleeding radiators is one of my hobbies, and it is a distraction I would recommend to anyone who works from home. It is easy, and highly satisfying in a vicarious sort of way, like burping a baby. My devotion to this routine maintenance procedure began two years ago, after a repairman came round

dusted again. The next time a repairman suggests I may have excess air in the system, I will brandish my favourite brass key. Old Bleeder, and say, "There is never any air in my radiators. Let's stop playing games, shall we?"

The radiator key could be said to be cousin to the now-extinct skate key, another single-purpose tool with a high misplacement rating. Although indisputably an adult thing, the radiator key looks like the kind of object boys always have in their pockets. Even now, if I saw one lying in the road I would probably pick it up, which is more than I can say about your 10-pence coin.

According to the man at the ironmonger's, the standard radiator key fits 90 per cent of all radiators. While there I bought a new one (brass, milled barrel pierced by a cylindrical handle, stopcock-style) for 95p. I suppose I do not really need to be adding to my collection, but there is not much else to do in the off-season.

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Independent Parents

The performance artist Andrey Bartenev is the leader of Russia's high camp revolution. By John Windsor

# He's the Damien Hirst of the Arctic Circle

**A**ndrey Bartenev, the 29-year-old performance artist whose riverside carnival will be staged at the Royal Festival Hall this coming weekend, is Moscow's Damien Hirst. He designs gigantic, outrageous costumes and is so popular over there that the Russian *mafija* splice footage of his best-known creations into TV commercials advertising their garish night-clubs and beauty parlours.

Dancers wearing the unwieldy costumes of his signature work, the *Botanic Ballet*, have to be trained not to fall over. Only strings that are gripped between the teeth prevent the male version of his "Underwear for Africa" – a 10ft diameter frame bearing discs that are the size of satellite dishes – from falling apart. The wearer is naked apart from a coypie.

Bartenev has been here before. He staged his first London performances – one-nighters at the V&A and the Concord Sylvania gallery – two years ago. However, his attempt to establish "a new visual culture" has yet to acquire a following in the English-speaking world. In this country, cutting-edge art is not performance art but the pickled sharks and elephant dung paintings of the "Sensation" generation. That is our "visual art". Not a single British performance artist has achieved a reputation matching the Sensation artists.

But then, we never had a Diaghilev – and the Russians love ballet. That goes a long way towards explaining why, when *perestroika* released a torrent of creative talent, Bartenev's performance art streaked to the forefront of the Russian artistic avant-garde. Bartenev has succumbed to it – at least to the new capitalism. His USSR and Sleeping Beauty collections have appeared in the Russian edition of *Playboy* magazine.

He is full of lamentations. "Once again," he says, "the artist in Russia is a nobody. Art patronage by the state has been replaced by a low-grade, Western-style consumerism that has become something of an official culture, dictating taste."

"Instead of fine art, we are getting entertainment, pop cabaret, night clubs with nude shows, beauty salons. The country has become a dustbin for European and American rubbish."

He made his reputation during the magical three years of 1991–94, the dream-time that elapsed between the bondage of communism and the bondage of the new capitalism. It was then that liberated Russians and Eastern Europeans threw themselves into a kind of Saturnalia of art festivals. Bartenev's costume spectacles were acclaimed at festivals of avant-garde fashion in Lithuania and Latvia. Moscow's state Tretyakov Gallery commissioned a performance from him, as did the Kremlin Palace. He toured Frankfurt and Zurich. Meanwhile, the Brits,

and the Americans, too, were

WHEN ARNOLD were signed by Cre-  
ation records last year, the only rea-  
sonable response appeared to be one  
involving the enthusiastic brandishing  
of garlic and crucifixes. As dour  
to-idiotry. Luddite indie under-achievers went, Arnold looked definitive to  
the point of caricature; their first re-  
lease was a collection of demos recorded in a barn (the imaginatively titled *Barn Tapes*), the three core  
members of the band looked like they  
had woken up in skips, and they were  
named after the bass player's dog.  
The idea that they might one day  
record something that anybody sane  
and not related to them would choose  
to listen to seemed as plausible a no-  
tion as St Paul's Cathedral taking  
flight.

Surprisingly, then, Arnold's new offering, *Hillsides Album*, is intriguing and lovely enough to tempt any cynic out on a damp Sunday evening. Some of the record, granted, is every bit as tedious and annoying as stoned youths with acoustic guitars tend to be, and the rather self-consciously experimental excursion should have been kept between the band and the studio walls, but the rest is a modest trove of wistful beauty. As Arnold, hunched beneath the low ceiling of this memorable venue, drawled and strummed quietly through songs such as "Goodbye Grey" and "Hill-

**ROCK**  
**ARNOLD**  
RONNIE SCOTT'S  
LONDON

side", anyone who has loved records by Nick Drake or American Music Club would have been happy to forgive them almost anything.

Part of the considerable appeal of *Hillsides Album* is its air of genial lackadaisicality, the way it sounds as if its creators woke up one morning and yawned it. In a live setting, Arnold – appearing as a five-piece – mostly managed to maintain this intoxicating torpor and the drummer looked like he'd nodded off more than once. But on the rare occasion they do muster some intensity, they're startlingly effective. On "Ira Jones Goes to the Country", lead vocalist Phil Morris exchanges his usual gentle croon for a bellicose snarl that recalled Eels' "Novocain for the Soul" or even Nirvana's *Unplugged* album – his faintly alarming physical resemblance to the late Kurt Cobain reinforcing the latter comparison.

Ultimately, it's still difficult to picture the name "Arnold" up in lights at Madison Square Gardens with "sold out" warnings blinking beneath it. It is to be hoped that such



Andrey Bartenev reveals his own brand of costume drama

ing to say – that Russia is a dark place full of dull proletarians?

"I want to bring joy and optimism. I don't like dark factories and offices. I like light, I like mountains, rivers, snow, the moon, the sun. Especially the sun. I like the endless horizon of the tundra, stretching farther than the eye can see."

"In creating this new visual culture, I want to break through the human body's traditional boundaries of form. My costumes are not fashion in the traditional sense, not tomorrow's rubbish in the wardrobe. They are real life materialised."

Bartenev was born in Norilsk, an ugly industrial coastal town 50 miles inside the Arctic Circle, surrounded by a frosty, breathtakingly beautiful wilderness. There it is day and night for alternate halves of the year.

Such a stark contrast inspires his work and helps to explain its excessiveness.

Shamanistic tribes survived in the region until the Eighties. The exaggerated shapes of their gods of the afterlife, carved in walrus ivory, echo those of Bartenev's giant figures. "Their culture was all about

performance earlier, he might have found himself locked up in an asylum. Even in the north of this country, his antics would have been considered a little queer."

But the Russian authorities let things pass and the audience of intellectuals clapped. "There had been nothing like it since Diaghilev. They recognised the culture of optimism. Seventy years of depression had failed to kill it off".

The Bartenev family traces its descent to Ivan III in the 14th century. In this century, Andrey's grandparents were sent to labour camps in Siberia and Chukotka. They were posthumously rehabilitated in the Seventies – too late to save his parents from low-grade jobs in mines and on building sites.

"So my mother and father ap-

plauded when, as a child, I began to express myself artistically. That was long before *perestroika*.

"I have always followed the path of creative egotism, thanks to the atmosphere of freedom and self-sufficiency that they fostered. They let me find things out for myself. I still

work that way. Whether performance of painting I create primarily for myself. That seems to be the most honest way of doing things, don't you think?"

Bartenev's riverside performance, "Sun Isn't Moon", at the Royal Festival Hall, 9pm Saturday (1 August) and 2pm Sunday (2 August), will have a cast of 60. It is part of the Royal Festival Hall's summer season, "The Great Outdoors". Music by the young Russian composer Oleg Kostrov, with additional music by Ben Park. The performance will be choreographed and directed by Fin Walker. Juliette Rubio and Charles Beauchamp, the London carnival artists, have worked with students from the Sir John Cass School of Art to create new costumes and accessories.

There is a free exhibition of nine costumes from Bartenev's "Botanic Ballet" in the foyer until 16 August. Beside it is Bartenev's Box, full of Bartenevian costumes for children to dress up in. For inquiries call 0117-960 4242.

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## The beauty of wistful thinking



Arnold: Nick Drake would love them

## A great big buffoon and too much dirty laundry

**PROMS**  
**ORCHESTRE**  
**REVOLUTIONNAIRE ET**  
**ROMANTIQUE**  
**ROYAL ALBERT HALL**

THE LAUNDRY basket arrived first. Before the conductor. Indeed, for a moment or two one wondered if, in the spirit of promenaderie, the thinner of the two knights dominating the evening (both Sir Johns, as it happens) might leap from it and launch a surprise attack on the opening bars. "Was not to be, though the opening bars – like much else besides – fair cracked along when Sir John Elliot Gardner did eventually assume his rightful place at the helm of the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique. This 'semi-staged' rendition of Verdi's final operatic masterpiece (a co-production with theatres in Baden-Baden and Cagliari) had the spirit and temper of a show that had lost its inhibitions "on the road", as it were. Director Ian Judge brought it to the Albert Hall minus the scenery but plus more or less everything else, including rather too much of the action. It was great when anybody stood still long enough to be heard."

Audibility – that age-old Albert Hall problem. Or rather, it needn't be a problem if performers are more off the hoof than on it, if voices are not forever coming and going between main acting areas that are an Olympic sprint and a couple of staircases apart. Especially since Andrew Mueller's Judge would appear to have been far

less concerned for the "lyric comedy" of the piece than for its farce and slapstick. "Frantic" (and before Saturday night I thought that was a move) probably sums it up. The spilling insanity of act two, scene two – the laundry basket scene – culminated in a kind of Keaton-esque chorus line snaking its chaotic way from one location to the next. For one awful moment I thought I was at a Frank Dunlop production for Raymond Gubbay. An item of dirty laundry then briefly smothered the first clarinet, a salutary reminder of the hazards of orchestra participation. But then, for that matter, much (too much) had been made of the on-stage interaction between the fat knight and the thin one (and even the extinct one – Sir Henry, whose brieft bust gazed bemusedly over the proceedings). It worked the first time, and even the second, but...

The fat one, who shall be known hereafter as Falstaff, was Jean-Philippe Lafont, amply endowed, it has to be said, with more personality than voice (too much of the buffo parlando).

What I wouldn't have given for less of the buffo, the overgrown adolescent, and more of the old sot with airs. But this was generally a fine cast whose well-honed lyric voices would have been heard to better effect in a small house. Hillervi Martineau's Alice was blessed with stylish phrasing, Rebecca Evans floated a starry-eyed fragility as Nanetta, there was an outstanding Mistress Quickly in Sara Mingardo, the antithesis of the clapped-out character mezzos who too often sing the role (the comedy of her "reverential" bottom register beautifully exploited), and a marvellous Ford in Anthony Michaels-Moore, whose fury thrillingly crossed the boundaries of the comic-tragic in his act two scene.

Above all, though, the spirit of Verdi's endlessly resourceful score was alive and well and living in Gardiner's orchestra. Period instruments bring a warmth and piquancy and speed of reflex and character all their own. Woodwinds are woodier, brass brassier. In particular, the bawdiness, the flatulence of the score, can be given full rein: witness the mocking guffaw of horns, trilling down in their lowest register, which tells us more about Falstaff's ignominious dousing than anything anyone might put on stage.

EDWARD SECKERSON

Weighed down by law of the jungle

THEATRE  
AFTER DAWNE

A spell back in his native Russia brought out a wildly different side to Marc Chagall.  
By Tom Lubbock

**H**ey-diddle-diddle. Marc Chagall needs no recommendation. If you love him, he's the most lovable of modern artists. As he often said, he painted from the heart. The Royal Academy couldn't have found a more apt show than "Chagall: Love and the Stage" to accompany its Summer Exhibition. Many, surely, are buying joint tickets, and - going by last Thursday afternoon - the three rooms of the Sackler Gallery are getting fairly stuffed.

But if you don't love Chagall, this "lovability" is just what sticks in the craw. Oh, the fiddlers on the roofs, the cows jumping over moons, the blissed-out angels and swooning lovers and magic roosters - you know the repertoire well enough, a parade of twee, whimsical, folksy kitsch. And you don't have to know much about art to get the idea that like Dalí, Chagall really won't do.

Actually, this exhibition holds something for both sorts of viewer. It shows the artist in his prime, but with his direction not yet clear. Some of the pictures here, in their subjects and moods, certainly point to the winsome personal mythology that increasingly absorbed Chagall's talents. But others have inklings of the quite different artist - more edgy and more public-minded - that Chagall might become.

The period is 1914-22, the artist's late twenties to early thirties, a time that he hadn't planned to spend back in Russia. He had been four years in Paris, picking up the latest news about cubism etc., and came home for a short visit. War stranded him among his family and his Jewish roots. He married his long-standing girlfriend. He got involved enthusiastically in the revolution - at the start, Bolshevik and ethnic policies were encouragingly progressive. Jews were given political rights, the avant-garde promoted. He worked with the newly formed State Jewish Chamber Theatre. Chagall's paintings here reflect these mixed forces, and show how the mixture might have come out otherwise.

The "love" half of the show, celebrating his relationship with Bella, has the more familiar signs. There are lots of pictures of flying and kissing. Clearly these predict the later,



Marc Chagall's 'Over the Town', 1916-18. What's impressive about his flying pictures is that they're very convincing about human air-travel. If it could be, this is how it would go

sweet-dreamy Chagall, but the vision here is still practical. What's impressive about the flying pictures, for instance, is that they're very convincing about human air-travel. If it could be, this is how it would go. In *Promenade* the model is kite-flying. The man (a clear self-portrait) stands on the ground, holding on to the woman by one arm as she is tugged away above him on the wind, her torso acting as the kite-sail, her legs playing limply in the air like the tail. In *Over the Town* both figures are off the ground and doing a horizontal wave. Here, the main idea is swimming backstroke. They want to be ecstatic images, and if they succeed it's because - some irrelevant cubistic elements aside - they do ecstasy with real bodies.

The kissing paintings aren't so persuasive, though they work on an interesting idea, to make images entirely out of arrangements of heads and hands. But they come up against an old pictorial problem: the

fact that when two people are kissing mouth to mouth, it's very hard to see the interesting bits, their mouths and eyes. And Chagall uses a time-honoured trick to keep things visible, which is to depict the kissing heads as facing profiles, and then to overlap them so that their lips meet - at least, they meet on the picture plane, but in 3D actuality either the mouths would pass each other by, or the faces would squash.

The effect tends to be rather innocent. The figures don't look like adults devouring each other, but like children who, when they try to kiss mouths, bump noses, or like angels with no bodies to bump. Chagall's version too, though it's very nearly extracts from the problem a kind of awkward tenderness, is too Fey. But kissing is a subject that has defeated most Western artists. Very few hit quite the right note. This is an honourable attempt.

But it is the "stage" half of the show that's far more promising. It

promises the Chagall that later got completely lost. Indeed, many of the pictures he did for the State Jewish Chamber Theatre were lost for many years, when Soviet cultural policy went into reverse, first hidden under the stage, then stored rolled

These works represent a utopian moment of culture, a coming together of art and politics, the avant-garde and the popular and the ethnic. Perhaps because these are murals - wall hangings, though, not wall paintings - Chagall uses a com-

The *Introduction* frieze is the best example here, both of the sort of art Chagall might have gone on to do, and to us now, with our attempts to create some tolerable image of "community". It tackles a familiar problem of civic art. The most telling contrast would be with those public-minded street murals, which invariably and stupidly try to render a deep, receding space, and then fill it with all sorts and degrees of people involved in a jolly communistic knees-up. The main trouble with such works is that they offer an obvious lie. Even the most homogeneous community is very unlikely to get together in this frictionless way.

If you look at the *Introduction* it has a euphoric energy, but this doesn't stem from any unison activity. It has come out of the very plurality and contrariety of its forms and figures, which isn't completely chaotic, though the structure is pretty free. There's a diagonal relay-line of figures going across the

whole width, interrupted by a circular formation in the middle. Among the characters, though, almost everyone is doing something different - you can pick up various groupings, different patterns of echoes. And then other little scenes break out away from the main action.

By 1922, doubtful of his prospects in Soviet Russia, Chagall was back in Paris, pretty well for good. He never did anything like that again, but then the opportunity - the opportunity for social rather than personal imagination - never presented itself again. Either it was a great one-off chance. Sad for him, he never repeated the performance; but it's good for us to get an inkling of how a multi-cultural society might plausibly be pictured.

'Chagall: Love and the Stage' 1914-22. Royal Academy until 4 October. Summer Exhibition until 16 August (0171 300 8000)

## THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO BUYING AFFORDABLE MODERN ART

### It all comes out in the wash

THE HIGH streets of rural Suffolk are full of bad watercolours by local artists - timid daubs in insipid colours. But in Woodbridge, in a cottage half hidden by trees, Barrie Houghton is producing courageous semi-abstract landscapes that signal a rediscovery of the medium's true potential.

Now 56, Houghton took up watercolour only 10 years ago,

after watching one of his school-age daughters splash on washes. Before that, having graduated in fine art from Central St Martin's, he travelled Europe with experimental theatre groups, trained under Joan Littlewood, then played sinister roles such as Nazi heavies and wily Arabs in a couple of dozen films.

The gap of 25 years has

given him a fresh start. All that he was taught at art school, where he painted American-style abstract and expressionist oils, has fallen away. In its place, as he approaches the easel, beneath a fruiting vine in his tiny conservatory, is the sort of risk-all gambler's skill that kept him going during his years as an actor.

Applying washes is not for the timid. It is a make-or-break business. He fills a massive 2.5in brush with water, puddles it over several slabs of sticky Russian watercolours in his paintbox and, in a few quick strokes, spreads a pool of wash across the middle of a sheet of extra-heavy absorbent paper.

Immediately, different colours begin to run together. He must act quickly. This could be fields stretching to a horizon or one of the three out of four muddy efforts he discards.

One of the secrets of his meteorological effects, which have a Turner-esque exuberance, is an indicator pin used to pivot a corner of the paper as one wash runs down it to mingle into another. In the example shown, the wash gives the impression of rainwater storm-driven from land to sky in a dramatic arc. Houghton is just as adept at mopping and scrubbing, overpainting dry washes, and using his fingers to expose blank paper.

He begins his eight-to-10-hour working days with an hour's experimentation, aimed at extending his repertory of techniques. The result, he says, is that, "When I find exciting

things happening in a painting, I stand more chance of being able to grasp them and make use of them."

"I take risks that can either spoil everything or lift a painting out completely. I think taking risks is what is lacking in watercolour today."

"Those people who emulate the Norwich School, for example, leave nothing of themselves in their paintings."

"It may sound like a cliché, but a painting in progress does have a life of its own. Although I have learned how to control paint, I still need to trust the way it behaves."

Perhaps no one has ever seen a storm driving rainwater off land - if, indeed, that is what is happening in Houghton's painting. But, like Turner's semi-abstractions, Houghton's atmospheric effects are immediately recognisable as natural phenomena.

He says: "I have a feeling for landscape. I can feel whether a painting is developing an interesting texture that people will read things into."

He has had solo exhibitions in Woodbridge, Cambridge, Ely and Dublin, and has begun to be widely collected.

Studio prices range from £250 to £1,000. The painting shown here is £600. His next solo show will be at the John Russell Gallery, 4-6 Wherry Lane, Ipswich, from 1 to 27 March, next year.

Barrie Houghton, 01394 385260; The John Russell Gallery, 01473 212051



Barrie Houghton at home with his painting 'Waterdrift' in the background

Brynn Colton/Assignments

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# HEALTH

## Stress is a serious business

An overused word, perhaps, but a condition to blame for many illnesses.

By Roger Dobson

**B**ill, 42 and a former lorry driver used to throw himself in the air without warning, then crouch down, cover his head with his hands and look terrified. Doctors diagnosed epilepsy. As a result he lost both his driving licence and his job. But when that medication didn't work, further tests were carried out and they found that his attacks were flashbacks to a road accident.

Each time he was under stress, he would relive the horrors of the accident, where he had tried to protect himself in the cab of his lorry. Stress has long been associated with depression, lethargy and irritability, but it is being increasingly implicated in a much wider range of physical and mental health problems too.

More than 30 disorders and diseases, from swooning, nervous twitches and dissociations to cancer, heart attacks and migraine, have been traced back to stress. The fit suffered by the Brazilian footballer Ronaldo, now thought to have been an "over-breathing" response to stress, has shown that even the young and super-fit are not immune.

One of the difficulties in understanding and treating stress is that it has a wide range of symptoms. An added problem is that stress is an over-used word that can undermine the seriousness of this clinical con-



'Stress is very real and everyone has a point at which they will break down' Will Webster

dition. "Those that dismiss stress have never experienced it. Stress damages the body and produces physical and mental symptoms. Stress is very real and everybody has a point at which they will break down in a way characteristic to them," says Dr Tim Betts, senior lecturer in psychia-

try at Birmingham University.

Clinical stress is difficult to define, but is generally taken to be a physical or psychological demand that is outside the norm and which triggers some kind of malfunctioning. Even this description, however, is confounded by the theory that there is

both good and bad stress.

"If you run up for the start of a race and you are stressed, your heart is beating fast and you probably feel awful. You're shaking, you feel sick, you want to pee every five minutes, but then you run like bloody hell when the whistle goes

and you win. That is good stress. If you stroll up to the start of the race, hands in pockets, and are so worried you are physically sick, that's bad. In other words, if stress makes you work harder and concentrate better, it's good. If it makes you ill, it's bad."

says Dr Betts.

It is now accepted that the pressure generated by stress does result in changes in the brain and body. Experts believe that once it reaches a certain level, it triggers a range of chemical reactions in the brain which in turn determine the physical and mental response. One of the oldest and more spectacular responses is swooning which, according to Dr Betts, is an uncontrollable defence mechanism that can occur when an individual is faced with a stressful situation.

Another reaction to stress is dissociation, where painful events are viewed as though they were happening to someone else. "Dissociation is something we experience when we are put into a frightening situation," says Dr John Mellors, consultant neuropsychiatrist at the Maudsley Hospital. "In cases of rape, victims will talk about not being there and about floating up to the ceiling and looking down at what was happening.

Stress is also implicated in a range of physical conditions, many of them a result of the effects it has on the release of hormones and other compounds such as serotonin, adrenaline and DHEA in the brain.

In heart disease, for instance, it's thought to generate an increase in the production of adrenaline, the so-called fight-or-flight hormone. In past times it served to keep man alive, but now we mostly over-produce adrenaline due to stress where there is no physical outlet.

"It's been found that in patients under high stress there is a thickening of the coronary artery wall," says Dr Jill Wilkinson, senior lecturer in psychology at the University of Surrey. "In humans it's been sug-

gested that the so-called Type A person is more prone to coronary heart disease. These individuals are over-committed to work, impatient, easily irritated and competitive."

It's thought that similar reactions in the brain to stress involve the release of other chemicals that compromise the immune system and can lead to cancer and other diseases.

But of all the reactions to stress, the most distressing are "abreacive" attacks. Characteristics of these are collapse, followed by a gasping and fighting for breath, arching of the back, pelvic thrusting, a thrashing of limbs and self-injury.

The features of these attacks, says Dr Betts, one of the world's leading authorities on pseudo seizures, are sometimes a macabre pastiche of sexual intercourse, and are often found in women who have been sexually abused as children.

Abreacive attacks are related to the large family of seizures, fits and pseudo fits that produce some of the more bizarre and frightening symptoms. They are also thought to affect up to four per cent of the population.

"If they are stressed, people can hyperventilate themselves into something that looks very like a seizure. When you really hyperventilate, you go quite still, you stop breathing, you fall, and you twitch, and you go blue because you don't breathe again until you have built up your carbon dioxide levels," says Dr Betts.

It's like this can be mistaken for epilepsy, a condition that can itself be triggered by stress. It is now estimated that one in five people diagnosed as having epilepsy in fact have had pseudo seizures of one kind or another. Spontaneous tantrums are another response to stress. Surfers can throw themselves to the floor, scream and kick violently.

Dr Betts says: "If someone sees something like that they often think mistakenly that it's a fit and I suspect that's what happened to poor old Ronaldo. He got really wound-up and had an over-breathing attack."

### SICK NOTES

WILLIAM HARTSTON

A COUPLE took their marriage vows in an ambulance in Boston, Massachusetts, after the groom fainted at the church ceremony. When Rafael Pittman collapsed at the altar, an ambulance was called and his bride-to-be, Shelly, followed him into it. As she stepped into the vehicle, one of the paramedics joked that they should get married right there, so the minister hopped in and performed the ceremony. "It all worked out well," the Rev Jason Sutton said. "Unusual, but well."

UNDER HEALTH laws in the state of California, Caesar salad is no longer illegal. The use of certain uncooked ingredients, including raw eggs, had been banned in a catch-all piece of legislation that included Caesar salad. A state representative, Carole Migden, then championed a bill to exempt traditional dishes, such as Caesar salad, from the requirement. When her bill was carried, Ms Migden said: "This half-baked law is now finally cooked."

MEDICAL LABORATORIES in Rio de Janeiro are under investigation following a hoax by a local newspaper in which bogus urine samples, consisting only of soft drinks, were sent for analysis. Only two of the 14 laboratories dealing with the samples detected the fraud. "These laboratories do not pass the test for ethics and respect for the consumer," Justice Minister Renan Calheiros told reporters. "They must be treated like bacteria which must be fought without respite."

REPORTS FROM Taiwan indicate that sales of traditional Chinese aphrodisiacs are under threat from the rapidly increasing popularity of Viagra. While the drug is not yet legal in most Asian countries, counterfeit Viagra has been found in Taiwan. Traditional doctors, who peddle secret formulas to cure impotence with names such as the Big Hero Pill or Essence of Tyrant, dismiss Viagra as a quick fix. They claim their remedies treat the whole person and lead to a lasting remedy for sexual dysfunction.

A FOUR-YEAR study at the Penn State College of Medicine has concluded that the role of hormones in determining sexual behaviour in teenagers may be overstated. Extra doses of testosterone for males and oestrogen for females were found to have little or no effect on the frequency of sexual behaviour such as masturbation, sexual intercourse and petting. Girls treated with extra hormones, however, did kiss more.

ACCORDING TO recent research presented to the Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group annual conference in Derby, four cups of coffee or tea drunk over the course of a single day has a comparable effect to a single 200mg caffeine injection. Both improve the drinker's attention, accuracy, reaction time and feelings of alertness. Twelve cups of coffee a day, however, may produce anxiety.



Dick Germain may have caught HepB as a child John Lawrence

## The virus lurking in your liver

Hepatitis B is deadly but silent. We need more awareness, says Heather Welford

IF DICK Germain hadn't had a severe attack of breathlessness at London Bridge station three years ago, he may never have discovered he had Hepatitis B (HepB). Mr Germain, 63, had blood tests as a result of his attack, which revealed both a dangerously high cholesterol level and the presence of active HepB - unconnected, according to the doctors, but each needing immediate treatment.

Mr Germain was treated with interferon injections for six months, then subsequent blood checks showed it had become active again. "I needed to repeat the interferon," he says. "I now go for regular tests, to make sure it is still in remission."

The doctor who treated Mr Ger-

main asked if he had had any "sexual adventures", but the most likely cause of transmission was through inadequately sterilised needles. "I was born in China, and it may be I was given some medical treatment which used dirty needles," he says.

It seems certain that Mr Germain had been a carrier for decades. Fortunately, his family were all clear. He now takes some precautions to protect others, and himself. "I'm now careful if I cut myself to wipe up any blood, and I keep off alcohol completely. All in all, I feel very fortunate."

HepB - in the news last week when a Paignton woman was suspected of exposing schoolchildren to the virus - can be a hidden killer. In worldwide terms, it's the ninth most common cause of death. An estimated one in every 1,000 of us in the UK is a carrier of the HepB virus, and can pass it to others. HepB is a different virus to HepC and also a less common one. Although Dr Jane Zuckerman, head of the academic unit of travel medicine and vaccines at London's Royal Free Medical School, says "both viruses have the potential for equally serious consequences and in fact HepB is more infectious. In the worst affected UK areas, as many as 1 in 50 pregnant women carry the virus, and they may pass it on to their babies.

While the majority of carriers may be unaware, between 10 and 30 per cent can develop serious disorders when the virus finally attacks the liver - maybe after a lifetime of being symptom-free. Liver cancer and cirrhosis of the liver are the most serious effects, often fatal.

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be unaware, between 10 and 30 per cent can develop serious disorders when the virus finally attacks the liver - maybe after a lifetime of being symptom-free. Liver cancer and cirrhosis of the liver are the most serious effects, often fatal.

An acute episode of HepB varies from relatively mild flu-like symptoms to a pretty unpleasant longer-lasting illness, with jaundice, nausea, vomiting, pains in the abdomen and severe fatigue. If you catch HepB as an adult, you're likely to make a full recovery. However, 10 per cent go on to become carriers, with the eventual possibility of liver damage. Babies with HepB are at greater risk of long-term effects, with 90 per cent becoming carriers.

The vaccine against HepB is generally regarded as safe, and in some other countries it's given routinely to infants, something Dr Zuckerman would like to see the Department of Health doing here. Kate Allsopp, spokesperson for the British Liver Trust, an information service, says: "At present it would be more cost-effective to target people known to be at risk, and offer them the vaccine, and to vaccinate babies of infected mothers. There's a public education job needed, too, to raise awareness generally."

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## At last, a Sure Start for disadvantaged children

THE GOVERNMENT'S announcement of its £540m Sure Start programme (proprietors: J Straw MP and T Jowell MP) is the most important measure ever taken to prevent crime in this country. It aims to help 125,000 infants in 250 deprived areas. A further £2m is to be spent on a National Family and Parenting Institute that will advise on how to spend the money.

Sure Start proves that at least some key members of New Labour understand the true causes of crime and what to do about them. It cancels out some of the less promising early signs in the party's attitude to child care, such as Harriet Harman's apparent desire to part children from their single parents as young as possible.

Sure Start is based on the assumption that the way parents treat their children during the first three years of life profoundly affects what sort of adults they become.

This is not a popular premise in a nation whose citizens are far more likely to attend rallies for the protection of animals than for children.

Psychiatrists tend to believe that

caused by genes, with adverse social conditions (but not early childhood) tacked on as a possible stressor for the vulnerable. Clinical psychologists are more likely to emphasise the role of upbringing, but attach no special importance to the early years.

Along with doctors, psychologists must take the blame for the paucity of research studies in this country testing whether the early years are critical. The main evidence comes from America. Freud's psychoanalysis started more promisingly with his announcement of an epidemic of child sexual abuse in Vienna in 1897. Unfortunately, he soon replaced this claim with the idea that what parents did to their children was less important than the way the child perceived it.

The abhorrence extends to politics. The left suspects that admitting the need for parents to provide consistent and loving care for children will mean chaining women to the kitchen sink again. The right dismisses a concern with early child care as compassionate, pinko nonsense that provides serial killers

with the get-out clause that their parents were to blame.

Given this national horror, it is all the more remarkable that we suddenly have key politicians prepared to take on the issue. Crime prevention has been the spur.

Crime is caused principally by being male and young. The difference between criminal and non-criminal is mainly whether they had parents with low incomes who, largely as a result, provided inconsistent, abusive and neglectful care in early childhood. Combined with genetic disposition (which seems to account for one-third of non-violent criminality, but little or no violence), this causes conduct disorders leading to educational failure and unemployment.

To boost self-esteem such young men join or create law-breaking subcultures that offer alternative hierarchies in which they can compete successfully - thumping people, robbing and drug abuse satisfy their need for status, as well as for money and kicks.

Tory home secretaries have always flatly denied these facts, dismissing them with aggressively

### BRITAIN ON THE COUCH



OLIVER JAMES  
*Sure Start proves that at least some key members of New Labour understand the true causes of crime*

philistine and illogical objections. Previous Labour home secretaries often focused on secondary parts of the argument, such as the direct impact of unemployment. Uniquely, the present incumbent realises that the way to break the "cycle of deprivation"

as Keith Joseph cor-

rectly labelled the problem, despite believing its cause was defective genes, is by tackling the early parent-child relationship and the impact of low income.

Sure proposes two ways of

doing this: by improving family

benefits for low-income parents, and helping parents to learn how to help

their children.

There is a precedent. As a psy-

chiatric social worker and later, a psychoanalyst in the late Thirties, my mother (then Lydia Jacobs) was

a pioneer of the Child Guidance

Movement. It placed the parent-

child relationship at the heart of so-

cial problems and created a na-

tionwide network of state-fund-

ed centres for solving them.

But Child Guidance was not of-

fered to under-fives, whereas Sure

Start concentrates on the under-

ones. Nor is Sure Start concerned

with providing psychiatric treat-

ment for damaged children - a pri-

mary role of child guidance - so

much as mobilising and develop-

ing existing community resources

to support and educate parents and,

in the long term, reduce inequality.

Some of the help with parenting

will be delivered direct by the state, mostly through Health Visitors and new family centres. But the most important aspect is that, unlike Child Guidance, it will put a significant sum into the voluntary par-

enting schemes that already exist.

Such programmes evolved

largely without state subsidy and

have struggled along with inade-

quate funding. They usually help

parents to help each other, and pro-

vide therapy and education.

Their cost-effectiveness has

been known for years. The Ameri-

cian HighScope project, for exam-

ple, found that for every £1 spent by

the state on early

# The hazards of a herbivore

Many vegetarians believe their diet is healthier than that of meat-eaters, as well as being morally superior. It ain't necessarily so. By Ben West

**A**ccording to the Vegetarian Society, most of us will have rejected meat altogether by the year 2030. With so much publicity about how we treat our animals - and what we feed them - this is not so surprising. The only danger is that many of today's vegetarians fall into the dangerous trap of rejecting meat and fish from their diets without compensating for lost nutrients. When Jane Taylor, 54, a housewife from Witham, Essex, changed to a vegetarian diet she experienced constant tiredness, high blood pressure, weight gain, muscle and joint stiffness, abdominal pain and bloating. She also contracted Crohn's Disease, a chronic inflammatory disease affecting the gastrointestinal tract. In November 1990 she decided to seek help from a nutritionist.

In place of fish and meat she would often eat wheat products four times a day. Her diet was low in protein, vitamins and minerals. She was found to have wheat allergy and the nutritionist diagnosed deficiencies in iron, zinc and vitamins B6, B12 and D. She was put on a wheat-free diet rich in nuts, seeds, beans, whole grains, fresh fruit and vegetables.

"It was amazing," says Jane. "After a year I'd lost three stone, had no Crohn symptoms or muscle stiffness, I had more energy and my blood pressure had gone down."

Leandrina Cole, 33, an aromatherapist from Brockley in south London, also saw a nutritional therapist - Alison Loftus at London's Hale Clinic - in early January. She was getting increasingly stressed, experiencing disrupted sleep and a lack of energy, PMS, water retention, dry skin, poor hair condition and frequent infections.

After detailed questioning, Alison was able to put these symptoms down to Leandrina's unbalanced vegetarian, then vegan, diet, where she abstained from meat, fish and dairy products. "I was found to be lacking in iron, zinc and vitamins B6, B12 and D," she says. "It was drastically affecting my ability to work. Alison put me on a detoxification diet for 14 days and then an improved diet with more whole grains, and vitamin and mineral supplements. It wasn't long before I began to feel much more energetic. The fluid retention went down, and my skin and hair have improved. I have a lot more stamina in general."

If a balanced diet is important for vegetarian adults, it is even more vital for their children. Alan Hackett, reader in community nutrition at John Moores University, Liverpool, has studied the effect of vegetarian diets on younger people.

Mr Hackett says: "One problem we found common to both the meat-eaters and vegetarians, was that



Leandrina Cole found out the hard way that her vegan diet was a danger to health. It lacked zinc, iron and vitamins B6, B12 and D

Kalpesh Lathigra

they ate the same amount of fat. We suspect that the vegetarian children were eating convenience vegetarian foods, which are often full of fat. We also found 33 per cent of the vegetarians to be anaemic."

Earlier this year Dr Jackie Sturdy, a research nutritionist at Surrey University, conducted a study of diets for children aged three months to a year. She found that four-fifths of the mothers were putting small children on a "nursery starvation diet" consisting of foods such as low-fat yoghurts and fruit and vegetable purées instead of more traditional foods - partly because they believed that fruit and vegetables were "good" foods and meat was "bad".

Non-meat-eating can also be problematic for teenagers. Lyndell Costain, a spokesperson for the British Dietetic Association, says, "One in five teenagers doesn't eat meat, and one in three has an iron intake that risks anaemia. They don't realise that they have to replace meat with good sources of iron.

Although vitamin B12 deficiency is rare, Tom Sanders, professor of nutrition at King's College, London, claims that he has seen many cases of neurological damage caused by absence of this vitamin. He also has concerns about soya milk, another

popular alternative for vegetarians. "Giving soya milk to children should be a last resort," he says, "as there's still a question mark over the phyto-oestrogens in it."

One common misconception is that processed vegetarian foods such as burgers, sausage rolls and prepared chilled salads are "healthier" than the real thing. Often they are not. It is simply a case of the food industry cashing in on the popularity of vegetarianism. Surrounding a lump of tofu with pastry to turn it into a pie cancels out many of the health benefits the tofu may provide. Also meat substitutes may require strong flavouring and tend to be high in salt. Some contain more than twice as much fat, and nearly three times as

much saturated fat, as meat.

There is some evidence suggesting that even balanced vegetarian diets do not significantly reduce some health risks. Part of a study by the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, announced in December, found that the difference in

levels of heart disease between vegetarians and meat-eaters is statistically insignificant. An earlier study by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine first suggested that vegetarians have a 40 per cent lower risk of developing cancer; but after further analysis this assumption was rejected.

There are many studies suggesting that a vegetarian diet is good for your health, but that may be because there are other differences between meat-eaters and vegetarians. Vegetarians, for example, are likely to have a healthier lifestyle; they do not drink or smoke as heavily.

The number of vegetarians has increased by 20 per cent in the last three years, and according to the Vegetarian Society, 5,000 people a week are switching. The problem is, how many of these will be embarking upon a varied and healthy way of eating? And how many will be encountering just as many health hazards as meat-eaters?

Are we too trusting of the medical profession?

## HEALTH CHECK



JEREMY LAURANCE

IS MY treatment really necessary, doctor? This may be a useful question to pose next time you visit the surgery after last week's revelations in the *British Medical Journal* that the blood product, human albumin, routinely administered for the past 50 years to patients suffering shock, burns or injuries, may have caused thousands of deaths.

The disturbing aspect of this is that because the treatment seemed so beneficial - replacing lost fluid with the protein-rich constituent of blood - no one bothered to check if it worked. How many other treatments have been around so long that they are an accepted part of the medical pantheon - beyond challenge?

When a team from the Cochrane Injuries Centre decided to review all the trials carried out on human albumin going back to the 1960s, they found there was no evidence that it helped the critically ill to survive and a "strong suggestion" it was killing some patients. It appears that albumin has a tendency to leak out of the capillaries, taking water with it and turning the tissues soggy. When this happens in the lungs, it is like drowning.

The history of medicine is littered with examples like this. Studies have shown that five of the ten operations most commonly undertaken in Britain are mostly useless or carried out inappropriately. Those swollen, angry-looking organs at the back of so many young throats in the 1950s were seen by doctors as the cause of illness, not a sign that the body was successfully fending it off. Hundreds of thousands of children lost their tonsils in a surgical assault that, we now know, actually weakened their defence against infection rather than strengthening it.

The fashion for D&Cs - scraping off the lining of the womb - has followed a similar pattern. Often performed as a treatment for excessive menstrual bleeding, it has been described in the *BMJ* as "therapeutically useless and diagnostically inaccurate".

Wide variations in the number of hysterectomies performed has led to accusations that gynaecologists are doing the operation unnecessarily. The value of removing wisdom teeth and of inserting grommets - tiny valves put into the ear drum to help fluid drain from the middle ear - has also been questioned. Yet more than 400,000 patients undergo these five procedures each year.

Various theories have been put forward to account for changes in practice. One of the unkindest is that they are driven by professional necessity. Once tonsillectomy started to go out of fashion, Ear, Nose and Throat surgeons found themselves with empty appointment books. The "discovery" of glue ear provided them with work, status and new source of income.

A bizarre example of this effect was the fashion for "total dental clearance" in the elderly. The fear was that elderly people were threatened by "focal sepsis", a local infection around a rotten tooth that could poison the blood and have very nasty consequences. Giving up what remained of their dentition seemed a small price to pay for escape from this threat.

But the idea had more to do with professionalising dentistry. A scientific theory about what dental clearance achieved allowed dentists to don white coats and get a leg up in the medical hierarchy.

One of the most serious charges made by "proper" doctors against practitioners of alternative medicine is that their treatments have never been subject to clinical trials. It is disturbing how often the same charge can be laid at or-thodox medicine's door.

## TEN TIMES MORE ADULTS THAN CHILDREN GET LEUKAEMIA

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# Long waiting times for a little peace of mind

For women concerned about breast cancer, fast, efficient screening is a top priority. But getting the treatment you need is not that easy, as Jane Feinman discovered

IT DID not have to be Breast Cancer Awareness Month for me to worry about the hard, ping-pong-ball-sized growth that I discovered late last summer.

Some women know instinctively that they have breast cancer and delay getting it confirmed by a doctor for up to a year. I suspected I was OK, but wanted the facts one way or the other as quickly as possible.

My GP referred me to the cancer surgeon at the Royal Free Hospital and was sympathetic to my fear of waiting. "Take the letter and go along to the clinic," he said. "They may see you straight away."

No such luck. I was given an appointment six weeks away and I calculated that, including the wait for the results of the biopsy, I would not know whether I was in the clear for almost two months. I prepared to put my life on hold.

Then my sister recommended the Quick Response Breast Clinic at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital's Well Woman Centre. Quick response. Well Woman. It sounded far more positive than waiting weeks to see a cancer doctor. I phoned and they told me that, provided my GP could fax over a referral letter, I could have an appointment the next day. I arrived at 10am and by lunchtime I was walking down the Euston Road, wondering why I had never noticed before what a jolly, bustling

place it is. Not only did I not have breast cancer, I no longer even had a breast lump.

The clinic is pioneered by the University College Hospital's cancer specialist, Professor Michael Baum, who aims to "triage" - that is, assess for seriousness - breast problems quickly so that cancer clinics are not flooded with frightened women whose risk of cancer is almost nil.

The nurse practitioner examined my lump during a half-hour consultation, after which she told me I was to have ultrasound and a mammogram. In fact everyone with a lump who is aged over 40 gets the tests, so the consultation, though reassuring, was probably over-long.

In any case, when she brought me a cup of tea after the consultation and asked me if a relative was with me, I immediately assumed the worst and spent the next hour or so in a barely controlled panic. It was only with the mammogram that the lump was revealed as a harmless cyst - and it completely disappeared when aspirated by the radiologist.

The service was, to say the least, impressive. I came away feeling not just relieved that I was well, but cosseted by a service that was both thorough and humane. It is the sort of clinic that the Department of Health would like to see in every health authority. But specialists say that these clinics will not work un-

less fundamental problems about breast care treatment are solved.

The main problem is the one identified by Baum - that far too many women are referred for investigation who do not have cancer or even the remotest risk of the disease. A clinic such as the EGAs does not necessarily solve that problem.

According to my GP I was lucky to get an appointment within a day to the Rapid Response Clinic. Waiting times frequently lengthen to a not-so-rapid six or seven weeks.

In 1996, guidelines drawn up by the Breast Care Campaign and the Department of Health were sent out to GPs to improve referral patterns. But, except where health authorities have made a special effort to get their message across, the initiative has failed. The last two years have seen "a big growth in referrals and a big growth in non-cancer referrals", according to Robert Mansel, professor of surgery at the University of Wales College of Medicine, speaking at a recent Breast Care Campaign conference.

Women with breast pain account for a sizeable number of these "non-cancer referrals". It is a common condition - 66 per cent of working women have painful breasts at some time - and for many women the pain is severe enough to require time off work, and prevent them from hugging their children or husbands.

The good news is that pain is almost never a symptom of breast cancer.

Simple anxiety accounts for a substantial number of referrals - some clinics report that referrals doubled in the two weeks after Linda McCartney's death.

Cysts in varying sizes account for about one in five non-cancer referrals and are "a normal part of breast ageing - rather like leaves on a tree going yellow", as one breast surgeon described it expressively last week.

These are less easy to distinguish from tumours, and the guidelines state that they need investigation.

It is not clear, however, whether using specially trained nurses to carry out the initial examinations in clinics is the right way to proceed. In Edinburgh Royal Infirmary's one-stop clinic, for instance, four breast surgeons examine 20,000 women every year. They believe that their personal involvement is largely responsible for the 13 per cent difference in mortality for breast cancer between Edinburgh and nearby Fife. "We are the ones who take out cancerous lumps, so we know what they feel like. The biggest safety factor is our experience," says Mr Mike Dixon, an Edinburgh consultant breast surgeon.

East Surrey, another health authority with a pioneering breast clinic, is following the EGAs example and training nurse practitioners to



Jane Feinman was reassured by rapid response Emma Boam

carry out clinical examinations.

The evidence suggests that nurse practitioners are at least as good as doctors," says Dr Graham Henderson, the health authority's consultant in public health medicine. He thought there could possibly be an element of protectionism in doctors not wanting nurses to get involved in examinations.

Women, however, are less bothered about being referred to a nurse practitioner rather than a specialist doctor, than about not being given

a mammogram. My GP was of the same opinion. If I had had private health insurance last year, he says, he would have referred me for same-day mammography. "You could have got one within two hours at St John and St Elizabeth, the local private hospital - now that's what I call a quick response."

Still, with such a wide spectrum of interests, it is hardly surprising that doctors find it difficult to come up with the perfect service. The good news is that they are trying.

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# MEDIA

The Court of Appeal has curbed the power of the Police Federation to claim heavy libel damages. By John-Paul Flintoff

## Media fight back on police libel



Kalpesh Lathiya

For the modest cost of £2.43 a week, police officers have enjoyed comprehensive legal protection against libel

**THE SUBSCRIPTION** costs just £2.43 a week. For that modest sum, police officers across the country are entitled to full legal support from the Police Federation. It is like legal aid for libel. After a winning streak of 96 defamation cases in a row, officers collected a grand total of £1.5m.

Police libel claims used to be called "garage actions", because when they were over a policeman could build a new garage. More recently, with damages for libel a little higher, they have been able to afford a conservatory. All they needed to do was to issue a writ and terrified publishers - most of them hard-up regional newspapers - would cough up. But the home improvements may be coming to an end, because police libel claims are no longer being settled without a fight.

Earlier this summer, a policeman issued a writ against a radical law centre in Liverpool, claiming that he had been labelled in a private letter to a senior officer. The case was due for trial in June, but shortly before that the Police Federation dropped the claim, and paid a sum towards the law centre's costs. The amount was minimal, but worse was to come.

But three years later, the officers Bennett, Gillian, Goscomb, Mapp and Watson decided to sue, claiming they could be identified and had therefore been portrayed as corrupt. In January 1997 the High Court found in favour of *The Guardian*, so the police appealed. When that failed, the federation had

to pick up the tab once again. The cost: about £400,000.

Soon after the *Guardian* case, a judge in the High Court, Mr Justice Eady, ordered the Federation to pay still more after the trial of a case against Channel 4 collapsed. The jury, it seemed, would have to be discharged after the police officer's barrister made prejudicial remarks in his closing speech. Geoffrey Shaw QC commented that a particular witness had not appeared in court to give evidence on behalf of the defendant - just four days after writing to Channel 4's barrister Adrienne Page, to say that the witness's evidence was inadmissible. The police appealed, but without success. To Shaw's immense embarrassment, the jury was indeed discharged, on 23 July. (The case, concerning David Jessel's miscarriage-of-justice programme *Trial and Error*, is likely to go to trial later this year.)

Taking into account the cost of the federation's own lawyers, the bill for these cases is certain to reach more than £1m. That is an awful lot of weekly subscriptions from members. So perhaps it is time for the federation to become a little less zealous in pursuing claims on behalf of in-

dividual officers.

The federation's solicitors, since 1958, have been Russell Jones & Walker, one of the biggest law firms operating across the country, with 128 lawyers working out of offices in several major cities. RJW also acts for several trade unions, and has traditionally been associated with the political left. One partner, Andrew Dismore, left the firm after winning a seat in last year's general election. But that has not stopped it taking on the liberal media if they criticise the police.

As all newspapers and broadcasters are only too aware, libel lawyers are by their nature aggressive. But RJW, say opponents, is more so than most. "They go at it like terrorists," says one. They take every opportunity to score points. But a spokesman for RJW says: "Aggression is not a word in our vocabulary. We are assertive on behalf of clients.

"The thing you worry about," says Martin Crudace, a Mirror Group lawyer, "is that even though one has been named, they're expert at finding someone who identified A, B and C. So if you mention a group at a particular station that can mean you get writs from several of them."

This does piss off the journalists who write the story, but you've got to be careful even when the story comes from the police themselves."

RJW routinely collects several statements from people who claim to have identified a police officer unnamed in a story. "They go and ask police officers who they should use for witness statements," says a frequent opponent. "They go to family, friends and colleagues, 'people who by definition know the person in the story'. Those statements are usually collected before the writ is served, so the stakes are high even before a claim begins.

And claims frequently do not begin until the last possible moment. By this stage reporters may have lost their notes and forgotten crucial information. This delay, says a solicitor, Caroline Kean of Wiggin & Co, is unacceptable. "If you are claiming that your reputation has been terribly hurt," she explains, "you should have hurried up to fix it."

But sometimes it is difficult for police to launch proceedings immediately. By issuing a writ, they may effectively give themselves a financial interest in the outcome of any outstanding criminal trials. In fact, say

RJW, it has become difficult for officers to launch any action at all - because the time limit for issuing writs was lowered in 1996 from three years to just one.

That explanation does not cover the recent *Guardian* case, however. Why did that take so long to

ally decides which cases deserve backing? Outsiders are baffled. The federation's chairman, Fred Broughton, declines to discuss this in detail, beyond stating that the federation "will defend the reputation of officers who are falsely accused, and the decision will be based on the best legal advice available". RJW's spokesman says: "We turn down more cases than we pursue; we don't engage in speculative actions."

Martin Crudace says the climate for libel has become more favourable for media owners, and not just against police claims. Two years ago, Elton John sued the *Sunday Mirror*, and won - but his damages were reduced on appeal. Since then, says Crudace, media owners have been confident that they need no longer pay out more than about £110,000, even if juries make an award of, say, £250,000.

This has given papers and broadcasters renewed confidence. "So now we say, let's see what happens in court," he says. "In the end, you have to protect the interest of shareholders and not give tax-free income to police officers even if a story is true. But it's up to newspapers to fight."

### Perhaps it is time for the federation to recognise that it has occasionally been over-zealous

launch? After all, "these are men who say they have been horribly wronged by a serious and untrue libel," says Geraldine Prouder of Olswang, *The Guardian's* solicitors.

RJW prefers not to comment on individual cases, but its spokesman insists: "We will normally issue a writ as soon as is practicable."

But who, inside the federation, re-

WHILE ON the subject of silliness, it is worth asking how *Holy Smoke!* will contribute to ITV's much-hyped efforts to attract the middle classes. It is a late-night religious programme that will ask such heavyweight, Joan Bakewell-type questions as: "Is it ever OK to kill?" But the real shaker for fans of the Thora Hird and Harry Secombe school of religious programmes is the first episode.

This will feature the page three star Melinda Messenger (pictured left) talking about her Buddhist beliefs. Sometimes ITV is simply too weird for satire, but that is what you get when you let the makers of *Gladiators* - LWT - do religion. We should be relieved that *Gladiators* does not include real Christians.

### THE WORD

ON THE

STREET



to what some newsagents have done to them. When Ms Boycott arrived at *The Express* one of her first acts was to dispense with *The Sport* - a stand-alone sports section.

Some newsagents had got used to inserting the section with people's other newspapers, so when it stopped arriving many started inserting something else called *The Sport* - that is to say, the soft-porn newspaper owned by the pornographer David Sullivan.

SYMPATHY MUST be felt for *Gladiators'* newest recruit. While the rest of them are known by names such as Wolf, Saracen, Lightning and Hunter, the latest to join has been dubbed Diesel. Look forward to a line-up next year including Butane, Paraffin and SuperUnleaded.

## Radio 1 is the key to success

### ANALYSIS

PAUL McCANN

THE BBC denies that it is downgrading spending on Radios 4 and 5 Live in favour of Radio 1, but it is true that the future strategy for radio, unveiled by Matthew Bannister to staff last week, needs to concentrate marketing funds on the pop channel.

BBC's radio's share of total radio listening is overwhelmingly dominated by Radio 1. When the station hired Chris Evans, Radio 1 and all BBC listening share went right up. Equally, when he left, both Radio 1 and all BBC network radio went straight down.

This close correlation between Radio 1's listening share and all BBC radio share is a function of the size of Radio 1's audience and the number of hours its audience spends with the channel on the background.

It is also down to the fact that if Radio 1's audience is not listening to Radio 1 it goes straight to commercial stations, and lessens the BBC's share. If Radio 4's or Radio 3's audiences are not listening to those BBC stations, they are not listening to radio at all.

Only recently has the curve of Radio 1 and BBC radio listening started to separate slightly. The new young male audience being at-

tracted by Radio 5 Live and the ageing baby-boomers moving to Radio 2's new adult rock output are coming from commercial stations and can help smooth out the corporation's dips if Radio 1 is suffering.

**By showcasing new talent the BBC encourages all British popular music**

As the competition from commercial radio increases - there will be another 50 new stations on air within four years, most of them offering music - Radio 1's position will need ever more defending. This is where the advertising money promised by Bannister's strategy comes in. Just under £5m, or 3 per cent of the network radio programme budget, will be shaved off for live productions across all stations and for more advertising and marketing for Radios 1, 2 and 5 Live. There, despite hundreds of stations

listen to popular music. It is also suggested that spending licence-payers' money on advertising for Radio 1 is somehow going against the BBC's public service remit. In fact, promoting Radio 1 is good for Britain, and is as public-service-oriented as pumping out opera on Radio 3 to four old men in Surrey.

Without a station such as Radio 1 dedicated to playing new bands, British music radio stations would be as ossified as those in America. There, despite hundreds of stations

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Popular music is where Britain's ethnic minorities, urban tribes and adolescents come together. DJs such as Tim Westwood and Chris Goldfinger play music that allows the BBC, for once, to cross over from the mainstream. To suggest that supporting the station that does all that is not in the public service is to have a narrow view of the British public.

مكتبة من الأصل

# The maturing of America

*Tales of the City*  
is back, minus the  
moral backlash.  
By Meg Carter

LINE UP a best-selling author, a cult series of books, some of the biggest names in film and television, a major British broadcaster and a US network, and you would be forgiven for thinking you had a sure-fire recipe for TV success. But not even this could prevent a five-year delay in the arrival of *More Tales of the City*, the second TV series based on Armistead Maupin's acclaimed novels, which finally goes out on Channel 4 from Saturday (1 August).

"A saga in its own right" is how the series' LA-based executive producer, Alan Poul, describes the battle to get *More Tales* on air. It is also a cautionary tale of the perils and pitfalls of developing quality, grown-up drama with potentially risqué content for mainstream TV.

The story began in 1976 when Maupin, then a young journalist, began a serial for the *San Francisco Chronicle* set in the city's free-wheeling Bohemian community. There was nice Mary-Ann Singleton, fresh from Cleveland, who falls in with a disparate assortment of characters including the landlady Mrs Madrigal, a closet transsexual, a lesbian roommate and a group of nice young men - all of whom, like her, are looking for Mr Right.

Intricate plots featuring gay and straight characters interwove friendship, love, secrets, betrayal, crimes and passion. Oh, and dope-smoking. The columns led to six novels, an international following and comparisons with Dickens.

Ten years later, TV rights to the books were picked up by the UK production company Working Title. Simon Wright, head of TV at Working Title, which developed the series with its US sister company, Propaganda, recalls: "We approached Channel 4 and they were desperate to do it. But we had no firm commitment from any US broadcaster."

*British and American attitudes to Maupin were clearly different. We perceived [Maupin] as a rounded*



Saga of the City: it has taken five years, but the second series of Armistead Maupin's tales is at last being broadcast

writer who happens to include gay characters. America perceived him as the country's leading gay writer," he explains. "Yet this isn't a gay soap or propaganda. Some characters are gay, others not. It is more about the sexual revolution in the Seventies."

Either way, liberal-minded East and West coast TV execs were fearful of Middle America's response. Their instincts were right. When *Tales of the City*, whose entire \$8m (£5m) budget was eventually put up by Channel 4, was aired by the publicly funded network PBS in January 1994, all hell was let loose.

"Although it achieved record-breaking ratings on PBS there was a lot of flak from our friends on the religious right," says Poul. Its depiction of homosexual affection and drug use was condemned by the Oklahoma State legislature. Chat-

anooga public TV pulled the series an hour before transmission after receiving a telephone bomb threat. Other southern state law-makers attempted to suspend funding for their local PBS affiliates. The American Family Association, meanwhile, was baying for blood.

"There was a vicious backlash. There were even discussions in the Senate over society's moral decay if a publicly funded broadcaster could show two men kissing in prime time," Wright says. PBS, which had expressed interest in co-funding a second series, abandoned its plans to crier of "Shame!" by the mainstream press.

"Channel 4 made it clear from the start that it would be interested in a second series, but only if co-financed by the US, as it was American entertainment based on

American books, with an American cast, shot in the US," says Poul. The project, despite *Tales* winning the prestigious Peabody Award in the US, looked doomed. But then discussions began with the fledgling American cable TV network Showtime - part of the media giant Viacom, owner of MTV.

It took a further four years to secure the full funding for series two. Showtime and Channel 4 were eventually joined by Hallmark Entertainment and the Canadian production company La Fete. Production moved from California to Canada - much of *More Tales* was shot in Montreal. Most of the original cast was reassembled and shooting finally began last July. The series debuted in the US on Showtime in June - with no moral backlash.

*More Tales* has an adult TV MA rating (mature audiences) in the US and, despite being more explicit than series one, still seems demure by late-Nineties TV standards. Showtime is pleased with ratings for the show, which was nominated for five Emmy awards last week.

Planning has now begun for series three. Although funding is yet to be confirmed, Working Title and Propaganda are confident. "Undoubtedly, attitudes in the US have softened over the past few years," Wright observes. Gay characters and issues now regularly feature in prime-time shows - as typified by Ellen DeGeneres' decision to come out on her own show last year.

Things have changed, then. But how much? An interesting measure will be if and when PBS (latest advertising slogan: "If PBS won't do it, who will?") shows a little backbone.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS IS UNDER THREAT. A PR EXPERT AND AN ADVERTISING AGENT EXPLAIN HOW THE BELEAGUERED PEERS COULD GET POPULAR OPINION BEHIND THEM

The public relations firm: Evie Soames, director of public affairs, Charles Barker BSMG.

There are a number of ways to improve the chamber's image:

■ Withdrawal of the daily allowance for hereditary peers. With an announcement, we'd package it up as being a big step into the new century, and make it sound as popular and radical as we could. Then, only those peers who were committed to a particular subject of legislation would attend the debates, while those that attend just to pick up the daily allowance and, though they don't have anything positive to contribute, vote nonetheless, will stay away.

■ A change of name. Maybe the House of Lords is not the most popular, user-friendly description: perhaps it should be called the Second Chamber.

■ Appoint a spokesperson or figurehead. The Commons has the Speaker to defend its rights and reputation, but the Lords have never had a figurehead. Maybe that role could go to an enhanced chairman of committees - a senior non-party figure in the Lords at the moment who has nothing to do with the executive. With a staff, he should make sure the Lords are not in a passive role as far as the coverage the BBC and other broadcast media give to them in their "Last Week In Committee"-type programmes.

■ Stir up the emotions that are around it - give it a bit of warmth. There's a lot of history there, and the English like their history. Do a big emotional number on it: say that it's part of our heritage and we couldn't possibly lose it. Hopefully, that will gloss over the fact that they're a bunch of old decrepit mutters. You could reverse the "thin end of the wedge" thing and say something like: "If we get rid of this, what's next? The Queen?" All the things we hold dear?" You'd be looking to raise the spectre of England as a republic with a president.

newspaper market: 68 per cent of the population, according to a MORI poll, did not see the Government legislate against predatory pricing in the national broadsheet market. From time to time, the Lords do represent popular opinion, because they do not have to kow-tow to their party line.

The ad agency: Larry Barker, Creative Director, BMPDDB. With advertising, you can do either of two things:

■ Look at its heritage - go into the past and find out the things that wouldn't have happened if the Lords had not been there. I'm sure there must be cases of great pieces of legislation that would have died had it not been for the Lords keeping them going. You need to muddy the waters, to try and find things that make the House of Lords seem more libertarian than the Commons and distract people from the current issue. This is crisis management advertising; you've got to quickly alter people's perceptions.

■ Appoint a spokesperson or figurehead. The Commons has the Speaker to defend its rights and reputation, but the Lords have never had a figurehead. Maybe that role could go to an enhanced chairman of committees - a senior non-party figure in the Lords at the moment who has nothing to do with the executive. With a staff, he should make sure the Lords are not in a passive role as far as the coverage the BBC and other broadcast media give to them in their "Last Week In Committee"-type programmes.

■ Play up some of the issues over the last session on which they have been more representative of public opinion than the Government - on tuition fees, say, or predatory pricing in the

INTERVIEWS  
BY SCOTT HUGHES

TEL: 0171 293 2222

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Experience in Internet page design and compilation of CDROMs also essential. If you are interested in any of these challenging roles, which are one year contracts initially, please contact our Human Resources team, quoting the position for which you are applying, at FEDA, Chancery Place, Timworth Street, London, SE11 5EH or telephone 0171 293 1280 or e-mail [icresde@feda.co.uk](mailto:icresde@feda.co.uk) for an application form. Closing date for applications is 3rd August, 1998. No CVs or agencies please.

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For further information call Paula Glason at The Association of MBAs

0171 837 3375

Can the *NS* gain political clout – and circulation – by attacking Blair? Paul McCann asks its editor

# New Labour, New Statesman

**SPECULATION ABOUT** the future of the *New Statesman* is as long-standing a political tradition as the summer reshuffle.

But now that the official opposition to No 10 Downing Street is most often seen to be No 11 Downing Street, the *New Statesman* has an opportunity not just to benefit from a Labour Government, but to be a player in it.

Now is make or break time for the magazine. It has a centre-left government, its last editor increased circulation after years of decline and its owner is a member of the Government.

Peter Wilby, the editor since May, has the opportunity to grasp a prize that has eluded the *NS* for decades.

Outside the magazine it was widely believed that he was appointed, by his friend and the previous editor Ian Hargreaves, because he could deliver the right political formula to give the paper an edge.

The theory is that the *Spectator* made editorial and circulation gains by being able to attack John Major from the right. Wilby, some people hope, will be able to attack Blair from the left and thus give the *NS* some political clout.

For some in the upper echelons of government that also means dragging Wilby and the *NS* into the struggle between Blair and Brown for the soul of the party. To some, the fact that Geoffrey Robinson, a member of Brown's Treasury team, owns the *NS* means that the whole paper is in camp.

"There is a window of opportunity

here," says Wilby. "But the old left and right divisions are becoming increasingly fluid. They are in fact a bad guide to what is going on."

"It is true that papers such as the *Spectator* haven't got a particularly interesting position from which to attack Blair. But I wouldn't say we will be further to the left of New Labour

"Stephen Glover [a media commentator at the *Spectator* and *Daily Mail*] said I was old Labour through and through and, to prove it, said I wore a raincoat. The only time he's seen me in a raincoat was at a Blackpool conference in October and the only reason he wasn't wearing a raincoat was because he was in a chauffeur-driven car."

"My personal politics are more complex than just old Labour. I was in favour of student loans when Blair was probably in short trousers. I have long been in favour of an independent central bank and I accept the need for a radical reform of the welfare state. I may say I was New Labour before these people were in power."

"I do believe in creating a more equal society, which sometimes doesn't seem to be very high on the New Labour agenda, but my views are a mixture."

"As to being part of some great manoeuvrings between Brown and Blair, I know nothing about it. I have once met Geoffrey Robinson, who as a cabinet minister has to put his interests in a blind trust. So he takes no active part in the paper."

"I am just a humble journalist who applied for a job and got it. As

to differences between Brown and Blair, I am not sure I could put my finger on what they are and I certainly wouldn't know what side I was on."

Wilby, who is universally liked by colleagues for his shambolic amiability, is as keen to talk about the editorial changes he has planned for his paper as its place in the Westminster firmament.

He denies that the cover story declaring the convicted murderer Sion Jenkins innocent earlier this month was part of a deliberate strategy to garner publicity.

"Bob Woffinden, who wrote the

piece, is an experienced investigative reporter. If he thinks a miscarriage of justice has occurred, he deserves a hearing."

"I will publish things because they are interesting, and because they persuade people to buy the paper. But that is not the same as a conscious strategy of looking for things that will attract publicity."

Instead Wilby, who was books editor of the *NS* before becoming editor, plans to increase sales by fattening up the back half of the magazine. "The back half, the non-political pages, is currently just five pages of books and five pages of art.

The paper will remain primarily a political journal of the left but, that said, it should also be a cultural and social journal. We should define politics in the broadest sense and to do that there will be a new-look magazine in the autumn."

"I am convinced that there is a market for a weekly journal of politics and culture and the *New Statesman* can get much more of that market. I don't see any reason why we cannot move from somewhere in the 20,000s to somewhere in the 30,000s in the next few years. Why shouldn't circulation naturally increase to more than 50,000?"

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## NEW FILMS

## THE GINGERBREAD MAN (15)

**Director:** Robert Altman  
**Starring:** Kenneth Branagh, Embeth Davidtz  
Kenneth Branagh plays Rick Magruder, a cocky little jack rabbit of an adulterous attorney in Robert Altman's disappointing take on the John Grisham novel. He celebrates his victory in a case against the cops by spending the night with a waitress (Davidtz), but soon gets drawn deeper into her world when she asks for protection from her demented Pa (Robert Duvall), and his gang of survivalists bath-dodgers. CW: ABC Shafesbury Avenue, Barbican Screen, Odeon (Camden Town, Kensington, Marble Arch, Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Warner Village West End)

**Boyd Tonkin**

## THE CASTLE (15)

**Director:** Rob Sitch  
**Starring:** Michael Caton, Anne Tenney  
When his family home is threatened with demolition to make way for an airport truck driver Darryl Kerrigan (Caton) decides to fight back and stand up for his rights. File under quirky Australian kirsch. CW: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon (Kensington, Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Trocadero)

## DANCE OF THE WIND (U)

**Director:** Rajan Khosa  
**Starring:** Kriti Gidwani, Bhavesh Gosain  
Indian star Kriti Gidwani plays Pallavi, a singer of Hindustani classical music who dies up on stage following the death of her mother. The delicate music and stately camerawork help build a hypnotic atmosphere as Pallavi tries to come to terms with her bereavement and regain her voice. CW: Rerun

## HANA-BI (18)

**Director:** Takeshi Kitano, Ren Osugi  
**Starring:** Takeshi Kitano, Ren Osugi  
A violent yet elegiac portrait of a brutal Japanese policeman pushed over the edge by his traumatic personal life. Hardly a thriller; it's more concerned with existential crisis than the nuts and bolts of the climactic bank robbery. CW: ABC Shafesbury

Avenue, Gate Notting Hill, Metro, Richmond Filmhouse, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green

## LA GRANDE ILLUSION (U)

**Director:** Jean Renoir  
**Starring:** Jean Gabin, Pierre Fresnay  
Re-issued in a restored print, Renoir's tender 1937 classic has WWI PoW Pierre Fresnay finding he has more in common with his courteous German captor, Eric Von Stroheim, than his proletarian comrades. CW: Screen on the Hill

## THE DAYTRIPPERS (15)

**Director:** Greg Mottola  
**Starring:** Hope Davis, Stanley Tucci  
Worried that her publisher husband (Tucci) may be having an affair, Eliza (Davis) confides in her parents, only to find that the whole family insists on accompanying her to Manhattan to confront him. Unering wit and unexpected compassion in this hugely accomplished indie gem. CW: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin (Fulham Road, Haymarket)

## THE MAGIC SWORD: QUEST FOR CAMELOT (U)

**Director:** Frédéric Du Chau  
**Starring:** (the voices of) Gary Oldman, Cary Elwes  
Arthurian adventure with a edge of true weirdness, courtesy of Oldman's renegade knight, Ruber, who comes on like a Cockney psychopath. CW: Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Chelsea, Trocadero), Warner Village West End

## PAULIE: A PARROT'S TALE (U)

**Director:** John Roberts  
**Starring:** Tony Shalhoub, Gena Rowlands  
Once the muse of indie legend John Cassavetes, Gena Rowlands here works with a talking parrot in this likeable kids' movie - well, that's show-business. CW: Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Fulham Road, Trocadero), Warner Village West End

**John Wrathall**

## GENERAL RELEASE

## BARNEY'S GREAT ADVENTURE (U)

Feature-length adventure for the big, jolly dinosaur! Ideal for the undemanding pre-school viewer, an endurance test for anyone else. CW: Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Chelsea, Trocadero)

## CITY OF ANGELS (12)

Nicolas Cage plays an angel puzzling over whether or not to exchange his divinity for domestic bliss with a mortal (Meg Ryan). CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon (Kensington, Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End)

## DARK CITY (15)

Urban nightmare starring Rufus Sewell, William Hurt, Kiefer Sutherland and Richard O'Brien. CW: Rio Cinema, Virgin Trocadero

## DEEP IMPACT (12)

A meteor the size of New York is on a collision course with the Earth in this heavy-handed disaster movie. CW: Phoenix Cinema, Plaza

## GODZILLA (PG)

The team which cooked up *Independence Day* is generally very adept at constructing enjoyable adventures. In this case, their touch has deserted them. CW: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon (Camden Town, Kensington, Marble Arch, Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Chelsea, Fulham Road)

## GREASE (20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION) (PG)

Twentieth-anniversary reissue of the nostalgic musical CW: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Virgin Trocadero

## KISS OR KILL (18)

Australian road movie-cum-serial-killer drama. CW: ABC Swiss Centre

## KURT &amp; COURTNEY (15)

Documentary investigating the death of Kurt Cobain. CW: Screen on Baker Street, Warner Village West End

## LIFE IS ALL YOU GET (DAS LEBEN IST EINE BAUSTELLE) (18)

See *The Independent Recommends*, right. CW: ABC Swiss Centre, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Minima

## THE LITTLE MERMAID (U)

After years of churning out sub-standard animated features, this sprightly adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's story - re-released for the summer holidays - began a string of hits for newly rejuvenated Disney Studios. Pleasantly jazzy holiday fare. CW: Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon (Kensington, Marble Arch, Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Chelsea, Trocadero), Warner Village West End)

## LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND (15)

A warm, subtle comedy starring John Hurt as a reclusive widower who becomes obsessed with a young film actor (Jason Priestley). The movie is essentially concerned with the tentative relationship between art and life, and takes great care in tracing the areas where they overlap. CW: Chelsea Cinema, Metro, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Haymarket, Warner Village West End

## MAD CITY (15)

A despairingly simplistic drama in which Dustin Hoffman's weaselly reporter chances upon a hostage situation in a museum, where ex-employee John Travolta has produced a gun in an effort to get his job back. With Alan Alda, Mira Kirshenbaum and Ted Levine. CW: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Fulham Road, Trocadero), Warner Village West End

## MIMIC (15)

Ingenious science-fiction-horror fable in which Mira Sorvino plays a doctor who successfully

combats a virus by developing a rival cockroach species to wipe out the original disease-carriers. CW: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

## MOJO (15)

Mojo is set in a mythologised 1950s Soho. The film never entirely escapes its theatrical roots, but it concentrates on sexual tension in a way that American crime movies generally shy away from. CW: Plaza, Warner Village West End

## THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Romantic comedy in which Paul Rudd confounds his flatmate Jennifer Aniston's dream of wedding vows and a joint burial plot by being gay. The film is like a primer for viewers who don't think they know what makes gay people tick, and though it can be very funny and charming, it has all the subtlety of a party political broadcast. With Nigel Hawthorne. CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon (Kensington, West End)

## THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS (18)

Executive-produced by Hong Kong action director John Woo, this is an attempt to launch the American career of his favourite star, Chow Yun-Fat. Chow plays a hitman with a conscience who finds himself pursued by both the police and by the mob's "replacement killers". First-time director Antoine Fuqua has made a name for himself directing pop promos, but his style is merely second-hand Tony Scott. CW: Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Trocadero

## SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS (12)

Now too old and craggy to be leaping from moving trains, action man Harrison Ford here tries to reinvent himself as a romantic lead. Ford plays a booby pilot who crash-lands with a New York magazine editor (Anne Heche) on a remote island. CW: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon (Camden Town, Kensington, Marble Arch, Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Chelsea, Fulham Road)

## SLIDING DOORS (15)

Romantic comedy set in the space-time continuum, sending its heroine, Gwyneth Paltrow, off into two separate realities at the same time. CW: ABC Baker St, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road

## SLING BLADE (15)

Intelligent and unsettling drama starring writer-director Billy Bob Thornton as Carl, a mentally disabled man who is released into the outside world after spending his life in an institution. Although Thornton is free of the indulgences of most actors who are called upon to portray a disabled character, the film sanitises Carl's personality. CW: ABC Swiss Centre, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema

## THE TASTE OF CHERRY (T'A'M-E-QULASS) (PG)

Thanks to highly naturalistic performances, the joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or is a hypnotic and ultimately moving experience. CW: ABC Swiss Centre

## THE THIEF (15)

In his investigation into the psyche of a six-year-old Russian boy in the aftermath of WWII, writer-director Pavel Chukhrai tries for the unforced poetry pioneered by Louis Malle in *Lacombe, Lucien*. Unfortunately, he doesn't quite pull it off. CW: Ritzy

## TOUCH (15)

Paul Schrader's adaptation of Elmore Leonard's novel turns a breezy satire into a heavy-handed investigation into religious conviction. CW: Plaza

## THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

Dumb but winning comedy about a wedding singer (Adam Sandler) who falls for a waitress (Drew Barrymore), only to find that she's engaged to someone else. CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon (Camden Town, Haymarket), UCI Whiteleys, Virgin (Fulham Road, Trocadero), Warner Village West End

## MIMIC (15)

Ingenious science-fiction-horror fable in which Mira Sorvino plays a doctor who successfully

combats a virus by developing a rival cockroach species to wipe out the original disease-carriers. CW: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

## ABC BAKER STREET

(0171-933 9722)  Baker Street

**Godzilla** 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ABC PANTON STREET

(0171-930 4222)  Panton Street

**Godzilla** 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ABC PICCADILLY

(0171-437 3561)  Piccadilly Circus

**Godzilla** 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ABC SHAFESBURY AVENUE

(0171-836 6279)  Shafesbury Avenue

**Godzilla** 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ABC SWISS CENTRE

(0171-439 4470)  Swiss Centre

**Godzilla** 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

(0181-315 4229)  Camden Town

**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Live Flesh** 1.40pm, 4pm

## ODEON MARBLE ARCH

(0181-315 4216)  Marble Arch

**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ODEON HAYMARKET

(0181-315 4220)  Haymarket

**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ODEON KENSINGTON

(0181-315 4214)  High Street Kensington

**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ODEON MARBLE ARCH

(0181-315 4216)  Marble Arch

**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## ODEON SWISS CENTRE

(0181-315 4220)  Swiss Centre

**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm

## CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

(0171-437 1234)  Clapham Picture House

**Godzilla** 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm  
**Daytrippers** 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm  
**Godzilla** 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.45pm  
**Sliding Doors** 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.20pm, 7.35pm

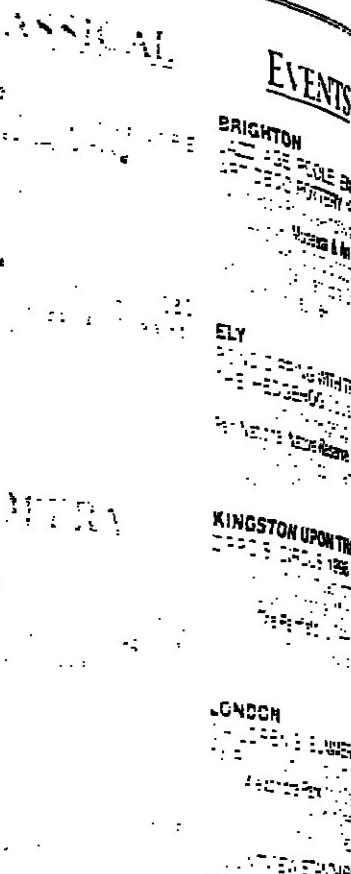
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THE TUESDAY REVIEW  
The Independent 28 July 1995

SATELLITE TV, RADIO/19

## TUESDAY RADIO

**RADIO 1**  
(96.3MHz FM)  
6.30 Kevin Greene and Zoe Ball.  
9.00 Mark Goodier. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 8.30 Digital Update. 8.40 John Peel. 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Chris Moyles.

**RADIO 2**  
(88.2MHz FM)  
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.  
12.00 Debbie Thrower. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 Carl Davis Classics. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 Everything You Wanted to Know about Busking. 10.00 Giant Strides (Stride Piano). See Pick of the Day 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05 Annie Otheren. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester.

**RADIO 3**  
(90.2MHz FM)  
6.00 On Air.  
9.00 Masterworks.  
10.30 Proms Artist of the Week.  
11.00 Sound Stories.  
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Handel.

1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.  
2.00 BBC Proms 98. (R)

4.00 Choral Voices.

4.45 Quartet.

5.00 In Tune.

7.30 BBC Proms 98. Aspects of love appear tonight at the Royal Albert Hall in a first Proms commission by Gerard McBurney setting a Russian love letter by writer Daniil Kharms. And the raptures and pains, love shines through two timeless ballet scores - Prokofiev's violent and sharp-edged, Ravel's glittering and sprightly. Tigran Martrossian (bass), Philharmonic Chorus, BBC National Chorus and Orchestra of Wales/Mark Wigglesworth.

Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet (excerpts). Gerard McBurney: Letter to Paradise (BBC commission; first performance).

8.30 Ravel: Richard Langham Smith looks at the spectacle of "Daphnis and Chloe" in its original context through Ravel's writings. (R)

8.30 Concert, part 2: Ravel: Daphnis and Chloe.

9.50 Postscript. Five programmes

exploring some of the century's greatest houses and the contribution they have made to the way we think and how we think about our homes. The second programme visits the USA to see Frank Lloyd Wright's famous house, Fallingwater. Driven by his belief in organic design and inspired by his desire to create an American architecture, Wright produced a startling design. The informality of the open plan, and the exposed building materials, have indeed provided a blueprint for American domestic architecture. (R)

10.15 William Fong. Piano recital.

Beethoven: Variations in C minor, WoO 80. Mozart: Adagio in B minor, K540. Busoni: Sonatina super Carmen (Sonatina No 6) (Kammerfantasie). (R)

10.45 Steiner's Benjamin. George Steiner unravels the life and work of the great German-Jewish critic Walter Benjamin, who, chased by the Nazis across Europe, killed himself on 26 September, 1940 on the French-Spanish border. He left behind some influential thoughts on modern life which had an major posthumous influence. Reader Anthony Hyde. (R)

11.30 Jazz Notes.

12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Szostakowicz. (R)

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

**RADIO 4**  
(92.4MHz FM)

6.00 Today.

9.00 Unreliable Evidence.

9.30 The Vale.

10.00 - 11.00 Through the Night.

11.30 - 12.00 Daily Service.

12.00 - 12.04 News; Shipping

news for visually impaired people.

### PICK OF THE DAY

**EL NIÑO**, the mysterious warming of Pacific waters off the Peruvian coast, has been happening every five years or so for hundreds of years. This time around, though, it has been declared Public Enemy Number One and blamed for a huge range of crises and disasters across the globe. For In the Shadow of El Niño (8pm R4), Julian Pettifer (right) patrols the Pacific Rim in search of the environmental effects - good and bad - of El



ROBERT HANKS

Niño. As we hear about freak weather conditions, firestorms, tsunami and floods, he asks whether things are really worse than before, or are we just getting jumpier? Later on, Humphrey Lyttelton takes Giant Strides (10pm R2), playing a selection of stride piano - a style defined by its "walking" bass patterns - performed by such great names as James P Johnson, Willie "The Lion" Smith and Paul Waller.

**ROBERT HANKS**

5.00 NEWS; Letters from my Windmill.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS; Unholy Relics. (R)

11.30 The Penthouse Apartment.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Tricks of the Trade.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

2.30 Afternoon Play: Dogs.

3.00 NEWS; The Exchange (0171) 580 4444.

3.30 In Celebration.

3.45 Hemingway Short Stories.

4.00 NEWS; A Good Read.

4.30 Shop Talk.

5.00 PM.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.30 The Mark Steel Revolution.

7.00 NEWS; The Archers.

7.45 Front Row: Francine Stock presents the night arts programme.

7.45 Postcards: The Fall. By Jonathan Holloway. When pregnant Charlotte returns to Portbryan, Cornwall, with her nice Holly, both find unexpected romance and passion. With Charlotte Coleman and Elaine Pyke. Director David Hunter (2/5).

8.00 NEWS; In the Shadow of El Niño. Julian Pettifer travels to Peru, Panama and Zimbabwe, giving his personal reflections and talking to experts about the effects of El Niño: the periodic warming of the eastern tropical Pacific which disrupts weather patterns and can trigger a collapse in the food chain. See Pick of the Day

8.40 In Touch. Peter White with news for visually impaired people.

9.00 Extra Time. Tonight, back to the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Tonight host Mark Steel in the studio are Sebastian Coe, Geoff Capes, Martin Croft and Chris Balissi.

10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson.

1.00 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

**CLASSIC FM**  
(100.1MHz FM)

6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly.

10.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto.

10.45 Book at Bedtime: A Patchwork Planet. By Anne Tyler, abridged by Pat McLoughlin, read by William Hope. Barnaby Gaitlin is nearly 30, divorced, directionless, the black sheep of his philanthropic Baltimore family. He also has a heart of gold (7/10).

11.00 Goodness Gracious Me. A six-part series of the award-winning Asian sketch show. This week, the introduction of a new Asian Gladiator - Pharmacist. Starring Sanjeev Bhaskar, Kulvinder Ghir, Meera Syal and Nira Nada (R)

11.30 Talking Pictures.

12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Book: Raymond Carver Short Stories.

12.45 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service.

5.30 World News.

5.45 Shipping Forecast.

5.45 Inshore Forecast.

5.45 Prayer for the Day.

5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

**VIRGIN RADIO**  
(125.1MHz FM)

7.00 Jonathan Ross. 10.00 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Robin Banks. FM only Ray Cokes from 645pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.

10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Peter Poulton. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

**WORLD SERVICE**  
(19kHz LW)

1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 The Farming World. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Meridian (Live).

4.00 World News. 4.05 Business Report. 4.45 Sports Roundup.

4.30 - 7.00 The World Today.

**TALK RADIO**

6.30 Kirsty Young with Bill O'Brien.

9.00 Scott Chisholm. 1.00 Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anna Reeburn.

3.00 Tommy Boyd. 5.00 Peter Deely. 7.00 Nick Abbot. 9.00 James Whale. 1.00 Ian Collins.

5.00 Early Show with Bill O'Brien.

Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

**RADIO 5 LIVE**

6.00 The Breakfast Programme.

9.00 Nicky Campbell.

12.00 The Midday News.

1.00 Ruscoe and Co.

4.00 Nationwide.

7.00 News Extra.

7.30 Any Sporting Questions?

John Inverdale and guests take at the King's Hall, Belfast. Guests include Scotland manager Craig Brown and former world super-middleweight champion Steve Collins.

9.00 Extra Time. Tonight, back to the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Tonight host Mark Steel in the studio are Sebastian Coe, Geoff Capes, Martin Croft and Chris Balissi.

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5.45 Inshore Forecast.

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5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

**RADIO 4 LW**  
(19kHz)

9.45 Serial: Letters from my Windmill.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS; Unholy Relics. (R)

11.30 The Penthouse Apartment.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Tricks of the Trade.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

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6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.30 The Mark Steel Revolution.

7.00 NEWS; The Archers.

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# TUESDAY TELEVISION

BBC1  
BBC2

ITV Carlton  
Channel 4

Channel 4

Channel 5

THE TUESDAY REVIEW  
The Independent 28 July 1996

**THOMAS SUTCLIFFE**



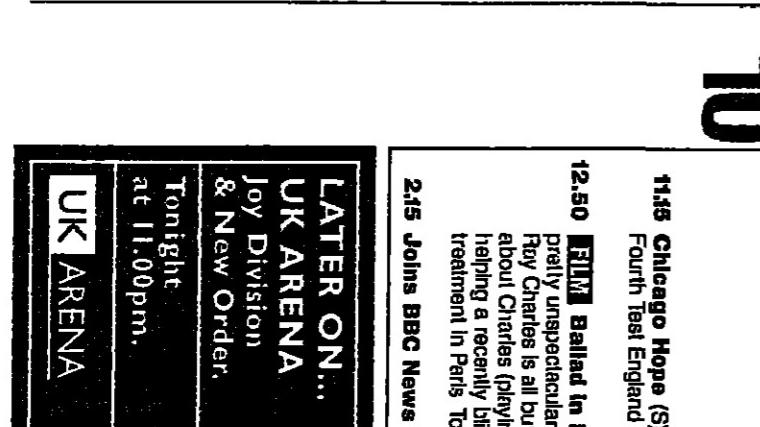
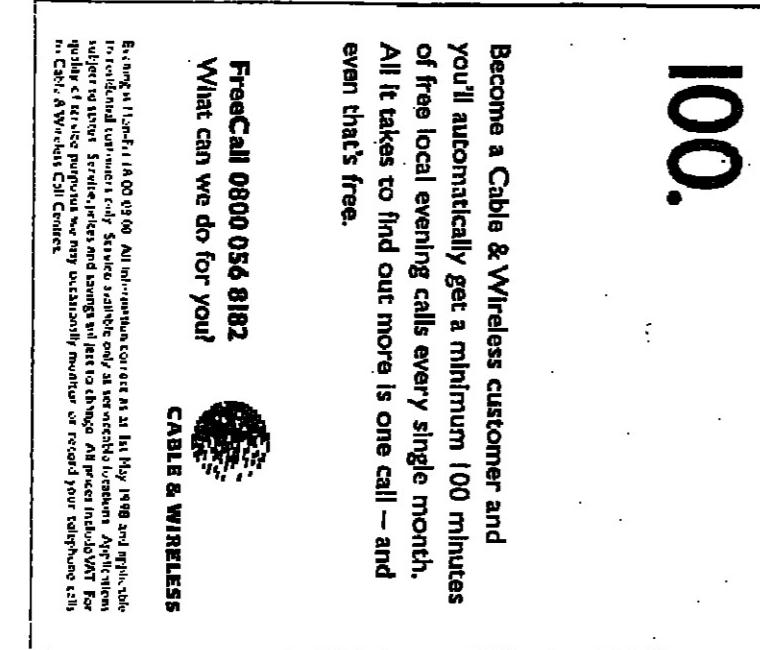
TELEVISION REVIEW

100.

What can we do for you?  
CABLE & WIRELESS

Business A Money for the week.  
What you can't trust the temporal  
use your credit card for  
purchase, then from Radio  
station of water and put the bowl into  
the shower. Showcard will replace  
but you will have to plan carefully  
before you use it. The woman who  
is not on the place at different times  
is not going to make you unhappy your  
money in their names, instead make  
whatever like financial deals, on that  
the process of paying for something  
will always allow for several  
thoughts. The place where they  
pay for paying someone's living up  
to the people you want you in the  
queue, but the amount you would  
have to pay for the service, they  
already took on the telephone and only  
paid the bank involved in long  
hospital stay in the second episode  
of the television game (BBC1).  
Angus Dayton illustrated these  
two very interesting problems, but  
he didn't deal with it very familiar  
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when you find yourself watching pro-  
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I think it makes them take care  
of the servants of love

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8.00 Business Breakfast (1919), 7.00 News (T) (19/2003).  
8.00 Kirby (S) (33/34/80), 9.40 What Now? (S) (4576/93), 10.05 Master the Challenge (S) (33/35/88).  
10.30 Good Living (R) (S) (98/93/90), 10.55 News: Regional News; Weather (T) (11/04/91), 11.00 Great Southern Weather (T) (11/04/91), 11.15 News: Second Counts (T) (S) (11/05/91), 12.00 A Word in Your Ear (S) (11/04/91), 12.30 A Word in Your Ear (S) (11/04/91), 12.45 News: Weather (T) (11/05/91).  
1.30 Regional News; Weather (T) (11/05/91).  
2.05 Glorious Goodwood and Cricket!, The annual summer racing festival from the Cheltenham races (S) (20/07/93) with the 2.25, 2.5, 3.20 and 3.50 races. (S) (20/07/93).

3.40 Children's BBC: Gulliver Boy (00/05/95), 4.35 Flamingo (T) (11/05/95), 5.10 The Fauna Game (S) (1/02/95).  
5.35 Neighbours. Michael gets lost in the park (S) (11/05/95).  
6.00 News; Weather (T) (03/95).  
6.30 Regional News. Andi weather (T) (03/95).

7.00 Holidays Out. A day's shopping in Culus, London by Scottish Borders by horse-drawn carriage (S) (11/05/95).

7.30 Eastenders. Grant plans a future for himself and Tilley away from the Vic. Cue that tony millie and psychotic look we all know and love (S) (11/05/95).

8.00 Vets in Practice. A vet with a life-threatening abscess and an apparently intriguing case of nerve poisoning (S) (11/05/95).

8.30 Crime Beat. How the police are now looking to turn the tables on their felons (S) (11/05/95).

9.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (14/28).

9.30 Glittery Madeline Raine. Pauline Quirke joins the ranks of TV actresses. See Drama of the Day, below (S) (17/05/95).

10.20 Inside Story: Confessions of a Car Salesman. A look at the world of car dealers. Where do they get that patter? (S) (17/05/95).

10.30 Newswight. With Jeremy Vine (T) (09/05/95).

11.15 Ruby. Her gurus are playwright Niall Simon, actress Anna Massey and novelist Josephine Hart (Followed by Weatherview) (S) (17) (38/19).

12.00 Film Ballad in Blue (Paul Hemmick 1985 (UK)). Some pretty unspectacular concert footage of blues legend Roy Charles is all but shattered by a cloying backstory about Charles (playing himself - or a near version of) helping a recently blinded English boy to get specialist treatment in Paris. Tom Bell co-stars (T) (30/05/95).

2.15 Joins BBC News 24 (05/05/95). To 6.00pm.

6.40 The Magic Flute (75/13/74), 6.35 Public Murals in New York (6/04/95/77).  
7.00 Children's BBC: Open a Door (R) (S) (00/05/95), 7.05 Teleclubs (S) (14/05/95), 7.20 Berlin (R) (S) (04/05/95).  
7.45 The Little Doctor (S) (00/05/95), 8.10 50/50 (S) (1/05/95), 8.35 X-Men (R) (S) (11/05/95).  
9.05 Korean mukku (R) (02/05/95), 9.30 Ocean Odyssey (R) (03/05/95), 10.00 Tablets (R) (07/05/95).

10.25 Cricket - NatWest Trophy Leicestershire vs Warwickshire. I've come over from Chico that of his Native Trophy (S) (04/05/95), 2.40 News: Weather (T) (11/05/95).  
3.20 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (11/05/95).

3.30 Cricket - NatWest Trophy. Only two wins, one loss, two draws, two losses. But subject, can be described as "a blundered in myopy" over it has

3.25 Children's ITV: Tots TV (11/05/95), 3.35 Jamboree (S) (05/05/95), 3.45 Rock and Roll Doctors (S) (05/05/95).  
4.00 Dart, the Little Doctor (S) (00/05/95), 4.25 Magician (S) (05/05/95).

5.10 Tour de France. Another grueling day in the Alps. 20km from Vizille to Auberive (S) (11/05/95).

5.30 Pet Rescuers. A man who has given over his semi-detached home to rescuing reptiles (S) (11/05/95).

3.30 Watercolour Challenge (T) (16/1), 4.00 Filletin One: Big Winners (R) (S) (09/8), 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (17/05/95), 5.45 Rick Lake (R) (S) (T) (28/05/95).

5.50 The Open Wintry Show. Oprah is joined by singer Bonnie Raitt (S) (05/05/95).

6.00 London Tonight. Regional news update for the Capital and London Tonight (T) (05/05/95).

6.30 Home Truths. A town from Birmingham Girls School in Shropshire. Brian needs one from Langdon Green (S) (05/05/95).

7.00 Emmerdale. Kristy bally, Janice, falls dangerously ill in her report. Previously she had previously saved his life (T) (25/05/95).

7.30 Channel 4 News; Weather (S) (T) (25/05/95).

7.50 Summer Rites. Another look behind the scenes of "London's premier gay festival" (T) (24/05/95).

8.00 Absolutely Autimates. Uncovers a dog-poisoning scandal in Italy (T) (24/05/95).

8.30 Ground Force. Ann Tichimurra and team join forces with the crew of "Blue Watch" to create a garden on the building site in Bishop's Waltham (R) (T) (25/05/95).

9.00 Meet the Assassins. Archduke Joseph Johann Nepomuk joins his team on a mission to confirm that a episode from the first series, being shown to celebrate its 30th anniversary (R) (T) (27/05/95).

9.30 In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great. Historian Michael Wood continues tracing after the ill-conquering Macedonian, linking his journeys through war-torn Afghanistan, crossing the Oxus river to central Asia to his silk route city of Samarkand, where he drunkenly died. Alexander killed the friend who had previously saved his life (T) (25/05/95).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (05/05/95).

10.30 London Tonight (T) (05/05/95).

10.40 Inside Burma - Land of Fear. An updated repeat of John Pilger's secretly filmed report from inside the military regime of Burma - being shown on the 10th anniversary of the unsuccesful 1988 democracy uprising (R) (T) (27/05/95).

11.15 Ruby. Her gurus are playwright Niall Simon, actress Anna Massey and novelist Josephine Hart (Followed by Weatherview) (S) (17) (38/19).

12.00 The Midnight Hour (37/720), 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University (Building Big Numbers (S) (27/05/95), 1.00 The Programmers (11/05/95), 1.10 Antwars Competition in the Arts (8/05/95), 2.00 Tim Croft: Champions of Nature (6/05/95), 4.00 Langrishe, The Travel Hour (7/05/95), 5.00 Business and Training: Circular Moves (12/34/95). To 5.15am.

3.20 True Life Tales (19/23/95), 10.34am.

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (T) (9/05/95), 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (R) (S) (06/05/95), 9.30 California Dreams (R) (S) (12/05/95), 10.40 The Secret World of Alex Mack (R) (T) (04/05/95).

11.10 La Fariente Nikita (R) (S) (13/05/95), 11.45 Asia Festival Show (S) (24/05/95), 12.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (13/05/95).

13.00 5 News and Sport (S) (22/05/95), 7.00 WakeWorld (S) (T) (13/05/95), 7.30 Milkshake (S) (06/05/95), 8.00 Havabazo (S) (23/05/95), 8.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (R) (04/05/95), 9.00 Star Trek from Star Trek (3/05/95), 9.30 The Orient (16/05/95), 10.10 Lazza (R) (S) (04/05/95), 12.20 5 News: Family Affairs (S) (T) (03/05/95), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (03/05/95), 1.30 Sons and Daughters (03/05/95).

2.00 Film The Gangster (Gordon Wiles 1947 UK). Grin-faced Barry Sullivan is well-cast in this fatalistic timer about a man falling victim to his own environment and becoming a man falling victim to his own environment and

3.35 GTO: Tarzan and His Mate (Cecile Gibbons 1934 US). Johnny Weissmuller gets dressed up and into his loincloth. See Film of the Day, below (33/05/95).

5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah is joined by singer Dionne Warwick (S) (05/05/95).

6.00 Per Cent. 100 questions, three contestants and the most irritating jingle on television (S) (14/05/95).

6.30 Family Affairs. Nick is reluctant to start work without planning permission. Charlie confesses to murder to gain access to Mel. As you do (S) (T) (14/05/95).

7.00 5 News, Including First on Five. Kirsty Young and the piper-palmer of tiny feet (S) (T) (05/05/95).

7.30 Animal Outposts. Documentary about the surprising variety of wildlife that live on the bleak island of Hormuz, on the south coast of southern Iran (R) (14/05/95).

8.00 Hidden Worlds. More wildlife, this time about the world's largest lizard, which is found in Indonesia (S) (05/05/95).

8.30 What Went Wrong? Tragedies caught on camera, and an explosion in New Jersey (S) (04/05/95).

9.00 Tuskegee Airmen (Robert Markowitz 1985 US). Traditionally packaged but intrinsically interesting Second World War drama about the "Fighting 99th", the first all-black fighter squadron, which was handicapped in 1942 by the liberals in Washington in an attempt to advance race relations - but were subject to large-scale racial abuse. The film takes the old-fashioned war-movie route through training and into combat, with chief emphasis on the characters played by Laurence Fishburne and Cuba Gooding Jr (T) (20/05/95).

11.00 Not the Jack Palance Show. Talk Radio's Carol McGuinn stands in for Doctor Who (S) (06/05/95).

11.40 La Fariente Nikita (R) (S) (13/05/95), 12.35 Live and Let Die (S) (24/05/95), 13.45 Asia Festival Show (S) (24/05/95), 14.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (19/05/95), 5.30

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